School Rumble

Vol. 7

Jin Kobayashi

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7

Jin Kobayashi

TRANSLATED AND ADAPTED BY
William Flanagan

LETTERED BY
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First published in Japan in 2004 by Kodansha Ltd., Tokyo

Translated and adapted: William Flanagan
Lettered: Michaelis/Carpelis Design

Honorifics Explained

In this manga book, you will find Japanese honorifics left intact in the translations. For those not familiar with how the Japanese use honorifics and, more important, how they differ from American honorifics, we present this brief overview.

Politeness has always been a critical facet of Japanese culture. Ever since the feudal era, when Japan was a highly stratified society, use of honorifics—which can be defined as polite speech that indicates relationship or status—has played an essential role in the Japanese language. When addressing someone in Japanese, an honorific usually takes the form of a suffix attached to one's name (example: "Asuna-san"), is used as a title at the end of one's name, or appears in place of the name itself (example: "Negi-sensei," or simply "Sensei!").

Honorifics can be expressions of respect or endearment. In the context of manga and anime, honorifics give insight into the nature of the relationship between characters. Many English translations leave out these important honorifics and therefore distort the feel of the original Japanese. Because Japanese honorifics contain nuances that English honorifics lack, it is our policy not to translate them. Here, instead, is a guide to some of the honorifics you may encounter in our manga.

-san: This is the most common honorific and is equivalent to Mr., Miss, Ms., Mrs. It is the all-purpose honorific and can be used in any situation where politeness is required.

-sama: This is one level higher than "-san" and is used to confer great respect.

-dono: This comes from the word "tono," which means "lord." It is an even higher level than "-sama" and confers utmost respect.

-kun: This suffix is used at the end of boys' names to express familiarity or endearment. It is also sometimes used by men among friends, or when addressing someone younger or of a lower station.

-chan: This is used to express endearment, mostly toward girls. It is also used for little boys, pets, and even among lovers. It gives a sense of childish cuteness.

Bozu: This is an informal way to refer to a boy, similar to the English terms "kid" and "squirt."

Sempai/Senpai: This title suggests that the addressee is one's senior in a group or organization. It is most often used in a school setting, where underclassmen refer to their upperclassmen as "sempai." It can also be used in the workplace, such as when a newer employee addresses an employee who has seniority in the company.

Kohai: This is the opposite of "sempai" and is used toward underclassmen in school or newcomers in the workplace. It connotes that the addressee is of a lower station.

Sensei: Literally meaning "one who has come before," this title is used for teachers, doctors, or masters of any profession or art.

-[blank]: This is usually forgotten in these lists, but it is perhaps the most significant difference between Japanese and English. The lack of honorific means that the speaker has permission to address the person in a very intimate way. Usually, only family, spouses, or very close friends have this kind of permission. Known as *yobisute*, it can be gratifying when someone who has earned the intimacy starts to call one by one's name without an honorific. But when that intimacy hasn't been earned, it can be very insulting.

Cultural Note

To preserve some of the humor found in *School Rumble*, we have elected to keep Japanese names in their original Japanese order—that is to say, with the family name first, followed by the personal name. So when you hear the name Tsukamoto Tenma, Tenma is just one member of the Tsukamoto family.

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7

Contents

♯85 THE TURNING POINT 003
♯86 APPOINTMENT WITH DANGER 013
♯87 THE WRONG WOMAN 023
♯88 SOULS AT SEA 033
♯89 THE RESCUERS 043
♯90 THE SHOOTIST 053
♯91 LET'S MAKE LOVE 063
♯92 COUSIN BETTE 073
♯93 URI GELLER 084
♯94 THREE BEWILDERED PEOPLE IN THE NIGHT 097
♯95 LE SORELLE 107
♯96 CAN'T STOP THE MUSIC 119

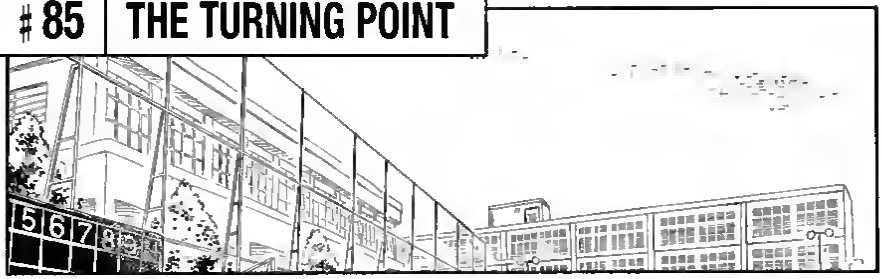
♭20 HOPE FLOATS 133

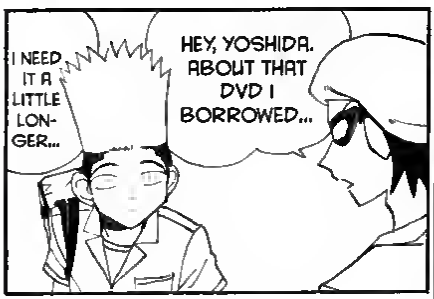
♮01 BALLAD IN BLUE 141

SHORT RUMBLE 152

Eri

#85 THE TURNING POINT





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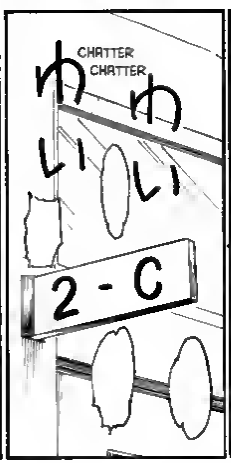
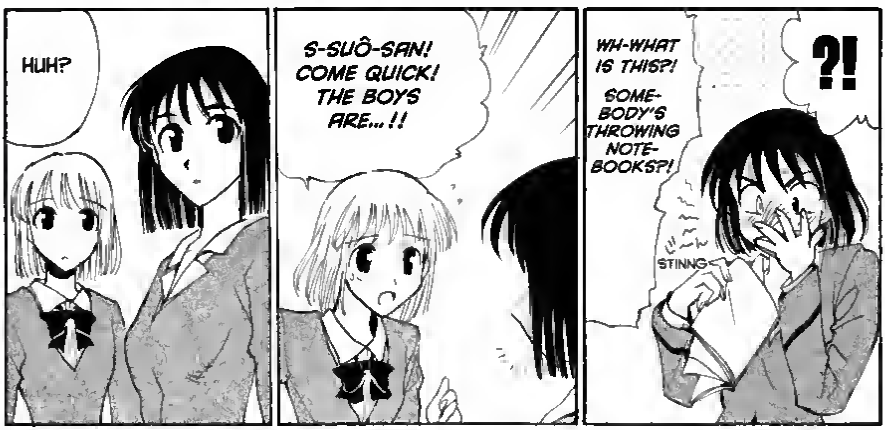


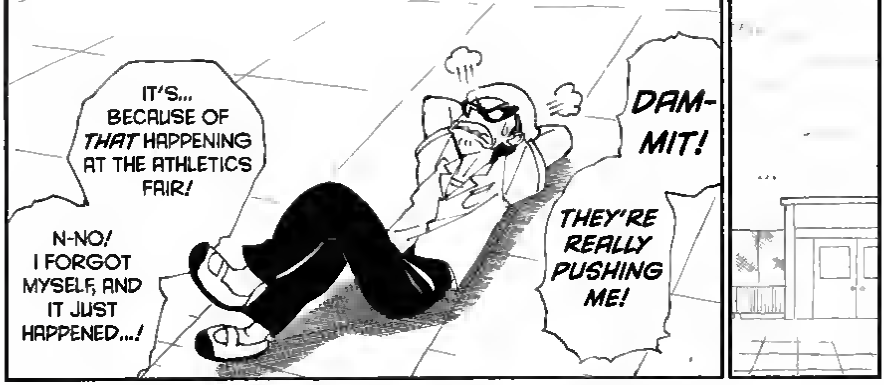
HM...?
HUSSSH
WHAT'S GOING ON, DAMMIT?!
.....
MMBL
MMBL
WHA...?!
WH-WHAT THE HELL IS THIS?!
HARIMA
SAWACHIKA

SHUMP
カラ…
HA!
THIS IS WHY... SHE'S KNOWN AS SUCH A PRINCESS—
BWAA!!
FWPPP
LET'S GO PAY A SICK-BED VISIT!
LET'S DO IT TODAY!
WAS IT SO BAD AN INJURY AS TO KEEP HER FROM SCHOOL?
IS SHE ALL RIGHT?
WELL, ERI SAID SHE WANTED TO COME TO SCHOOL, BUT...
YOU KNOW, SHE'S BEEN THROUGH A LOT

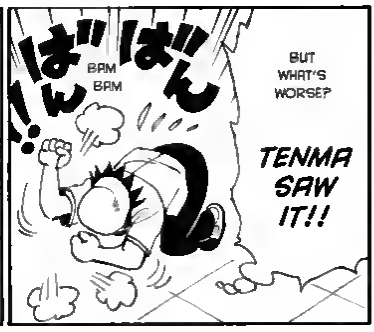

HUH?
S-SUÔ-SAN! COME QUICK! THE BOYS ARE...!!
WH-WHAT IS THIS?!
SOME-BODY'S THROWING NOTE-BOOKS?!
?!
STINNG

UNG-AAA!
OH.

IT WAS THERE WHEN WE WALKED IN!!
2-C
LIKE I SAID, I DON'T KNOW!!
WHO DID THIS?! HUH?!
AND WHY DID IT HAVE TO BE HER?!
NOW! TELL ME EVERY-THING YOU KNOW!
YA JERK'S!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON, BUT STOP IT.
HARIMA!
HUH?!
CHATTER CHATTER
C-COULD IT BE BECAUSE SHE SAW THAT ON MY DESK?!
WH-WHAT A SAD LOOK ON HER FACE...?!
DISTRESSED LOOK ON FACE
HARIMA LOVE IN MOTION.
DOOM
HA-- A--
TENMA-CHAN?!
4
HEY!!
AH!
STARE
TMP TMP TMP TMP TMP
NOO-OOO-OOO!!!

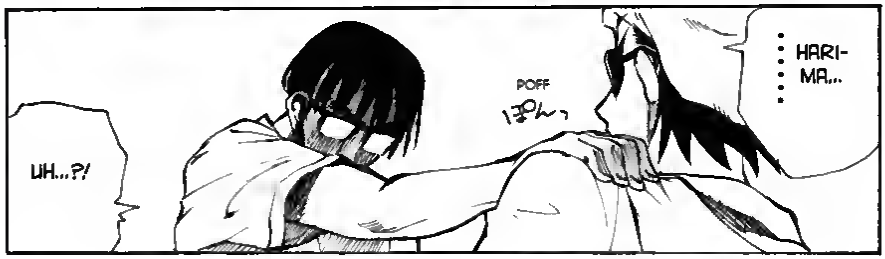

IT'S... BECAUSE OF THAT HAPPENING AT THE ATHLETICS FAIR!
N-NO! I FORGOT MYSELF, AND IT JUST HAPPENED...!
DAM-MIT!
THEY'RE REALLY PUSHING ME!
...

I DON'T HAVE THE RIGHT TO FACE HER AS A MAN NOW!
WHAT SHOULD I DO?! AND AFTER SHE WENT SO FAR AS TO SAY THAT SHE'D SEE ME AND ONLY ME!
WHEN WE WERE CAMPING

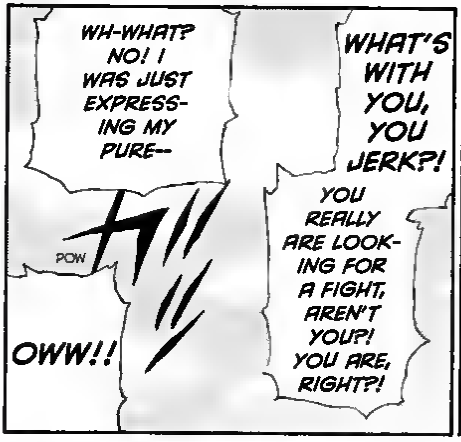

BAM BAM
BUT WHAT'S WORSE?
TENMA SAW IT!!

COME TO THINK OF IT, WE NEVER DID FINISH OUR BUSINESS, DID WE?
I GOT TO WARN YOU! I MAY BE BALD, BUT I'M STRONG!
SHAKK
WHAT IS IT, GLASSES?
ARE YOU TRYING TO PICK A FIGHT WITH ME, TOO?

!!
HARI-MA!


UH...?!
POFF
HARI-MA...

GIVE IT YOUR BEST SHOT! I'M ROOTING FOR YOU!!
GWAAA


WHAT'S WITH YOU, YOU JERK?!
WH-WHAT? NO! I WAS JUST EXPRESSING MY PURE--
YOU REALLY ARE LOOKING FOR A FIGHT, AREN'T YOU?! YOU ARE, RIGHT?!
POW
OWW!!

CONFIRMED WITH YAKUMO.
YOU KNOW, I WASN'T ACTING VERY ADULT WHEN I GOT MAD AT YOU BEFORE. SORRY ABOUT THAT. IT WAS ALL A MISTAKE, HUH?
BUT I JUST NEVER THOUGHT IT'D BE YOU AND SAWACHIKA-KUN.
AH HA HA HA!

HARIMA LOVE IN MOTION.
TENMA-CHAN!

HARIMA-KUN!
HUH?
I'M SO GLAD THAT YAKUMO-KUN HAS..
MUMBLE MUMBLE

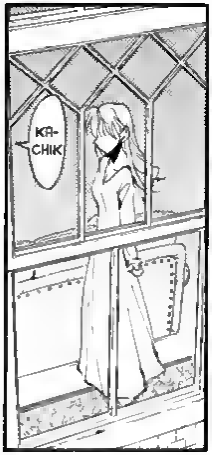
T...

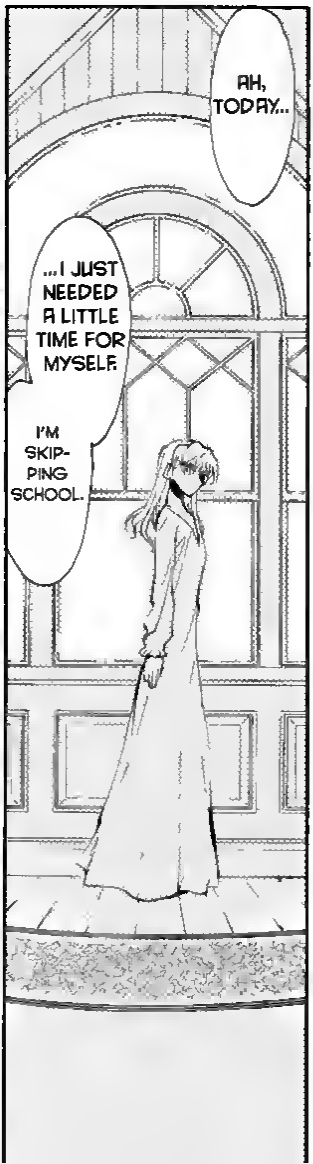
THE SAWACHIKA ESTATE.
MISS ERI...
ARE YOU CERTAIN YOU SHOULD BE UP IN YOUR CONDITION?

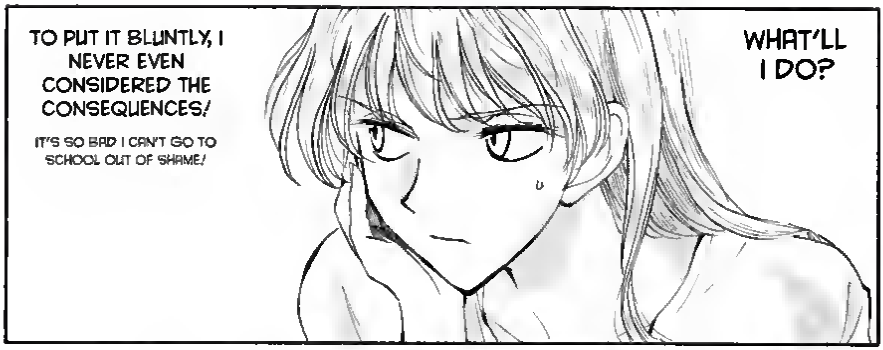
.....
YES, MISS?
SAY, NAKAMURA...

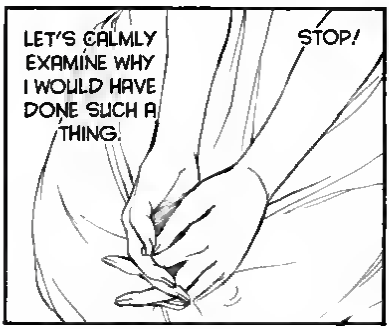
NO. IT'S NOTHING.

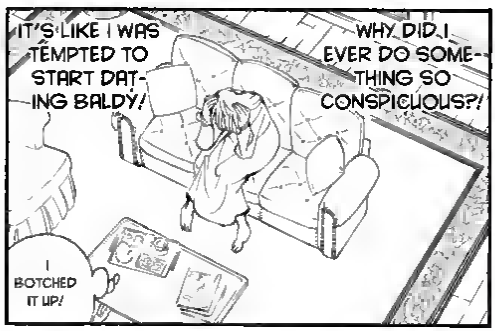
SIGH...

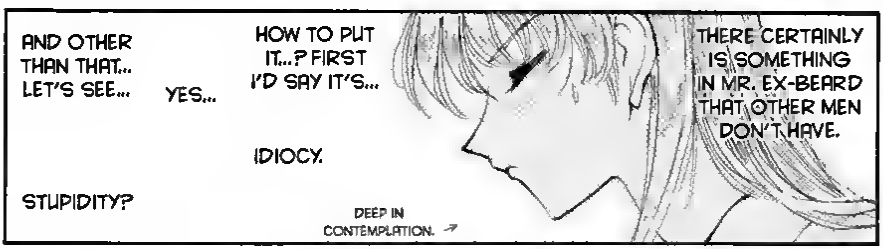

KA-CHIK


AH, TODAY...
...I JUST NEEDED A LITTLE TIME FOR MYSELF.
I'M SKIPPING SCHOOL.


TO PUT IT BLUNTLY, I NEVER EVEN CONSIDERED THE CONSEQUENCES!
IT'S SO BAD I CAN'T GO TO SCHOOL OUT OF SHAME!
WHAT'LL I DO?

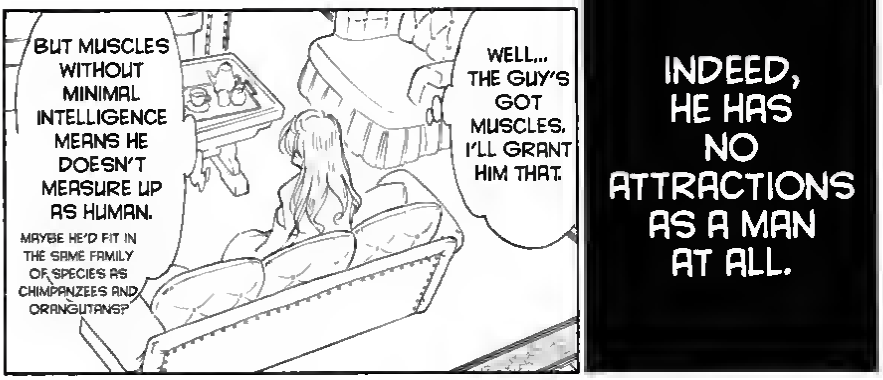

LET'S CALMLY EXAMINE WHY I WOULD HAVE DONE SUCH A THING.
STOP!


IT'S LIKE I WAS TEMPTED TO START DATING BALDY!
WHY DID I EVER DO SOMETHING SO CONSPICUOUS?!
I BOTCHED IT UP!

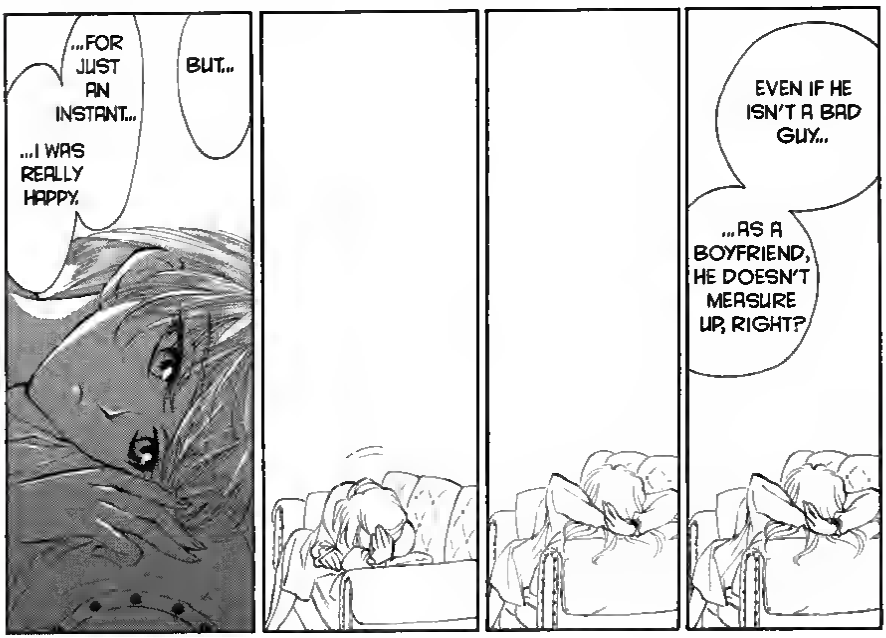

AND OTHER THAN THAT... LET'S SEE...
YES...
HOW TO PUT IT...? FIRST I'D SAY IT'S...
IDIOCY.
STUPIDITY?
DEEP IN CONTEMPLATION.
THERE CERTAINLY IS SOMETHING IN MR. EX-BEARD THAT OTHER MEN DON'T HAVE.

UNREFINED; NO PRESTIGE VALUE; A LACK OF DELICACY, AND BORING.
NO EDUCATION; NO OUTWARD GENTILITY; UNPLEASANT; SIMPLE-MINDED...
OI, Y'ALL!
ウオラー!!
WHAT SAWACHIKA THINK'S HARIMA SOUNDS LIKE
がはは!
GAH HA HA HA!

THERE IS NOTHING ELSE!
OH, MY!


BUT MUSCLES WITHOUT MINIMAL INTELLIGENCE MEANS HE DOESN'T MEASURE UP AS HUMAN.
MAYBE HE'D FIT IN THE SAME FAMILY OF SPECIES AS CHIMPANZEES AND ORANGUTANS?
WELL... THE GUY'S GOT MUSCLES. I'LL GRANT HIM THAT.
INDEED, HE HAS NO ATTRACTIONS AS A MAN AT ALL.

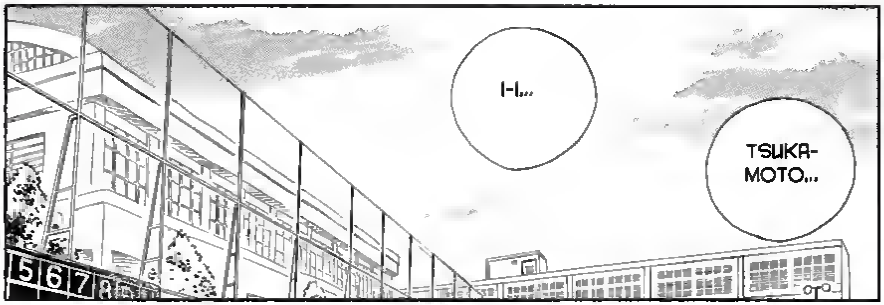
AND IF I DID DATE HIM ONCE, I WOULDN'T FOLLOW UP.
I JUST DON'T SEE HOW HE'S WORTH IT.
IN CONCLUSION...
I HAVE ABSOLUTELY NO MOTIVATION TO DATE HIM.


...FOR JUST AN INSTANT...
...I WAS REALLY HAPPY.
BUT...
EVEN IF HE ISN'T A BAD GUY...
...AS A BOYFRIEND, HE DOESN'T MEASURE UP, RIGHT?

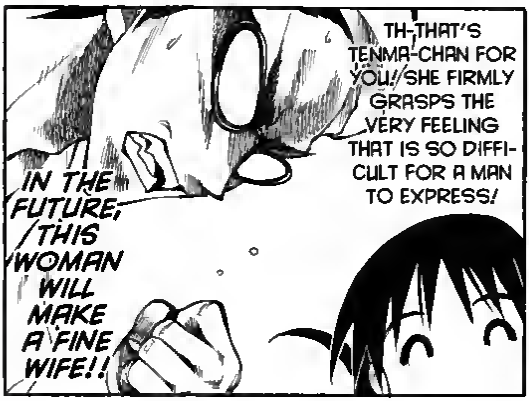
Agony.

Hanai Haruki: Swooning in Happiness. (↓)

#85 · · · · · · · · · Fin



IT'D BE WEIRD IF I APOLOGIZED ABOUT THE THING WITH THE PRINCESS!
IT ISN'T LIKE TENMA-CHAN IS MY GIRLFRIEND YET...
NOT YET, ANYWAY
DAMMIT! HOW SHOULD I SAY THIS?


TH-THAT'S TENMA-CHAN FOR YOU! SHE FIRMLY GRASPS THE VERY FEELING THAT IS SO DIFFICULT FOR A MAN TO EXPRESS!
IN THE FUTURE, THIS WOMAN WILL MAKE A FINE WIFE!!

#86 APPOINTMENT WITH DANGER

Y-YES, I'M SURE YOU'RE RIGHT...
BUT IT HAS TO BE SAID, OR IT WILL TURN INTO A PROBLEM.
WHEN ARE YOU GOING TO CONFESS YOUR FEELINGS...?
SAY, HARIMA-KUN...
HUH? REALLY?!
ALL RIGHT!
I-I-I-I CAN DO IT RIGHT NOW!!
CAN I REALLY?
KH! FINALLY! THE TIME HAS FINALLY COME TO CONFESS MY LOVE FOR TENMA-CHAN!!
I CAN FINALLY PUT MY EMOTIONS INTO WORDS...
TH-THANK YOU, TENMA-CHAN!

HUH?
I'M ROOTING FOR YOU! ♡
ERI-CHAN WILL BE SO HAPPY!
POFF POFF
?
.....WH...
WHY WOULD ERI BE HAPPY ABOUT THAT...?
YOU ARE ALL LOVEY-DOVEY FOR ERI-CHAN, AREN'TCHA?!
COME ON!! DON'T TRY TO HIDE IT! YOU ALREADY KNOW!!
YOU'RE JUST TRYING TO PROVOKE ME!
BANG!!

...IT MEANS THAT ALL THIS TIME, TENMA-CHAN...

I-IN OTHER WORDS...

...HAS NOT HAD THE SLIGHTEST FEELINGS FOR ME AT ALL...

T...

TENMA-CHAN...

YOU'VE COMPLETELY MISTAKEN WHAT'S BETWEEN ME AND THE PRINCESS!

N-NO... EVEN WORSE THAN THAT WAS THE "ROOTING FOR ME" LINE...

KACHAK

PA>

EH...?! OH... YEAH...!!

I WANT FULL DETAILS!!

TELL ME WHEN YOU CONFESS YOUR FEELINGS!

OKAY!

DOESN'T KNOW WHAT TO DO, SO HE PUTS ON A FORCED SMILE.

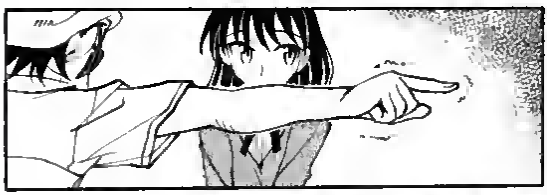
BU...BWA HA HA! BWA HA HA HA HA HA!

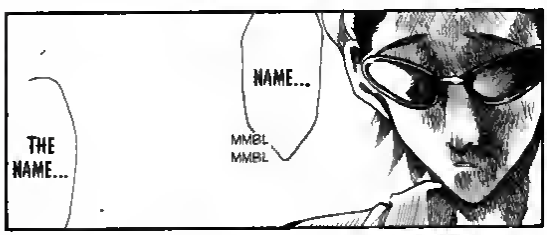
HM? WHAT?

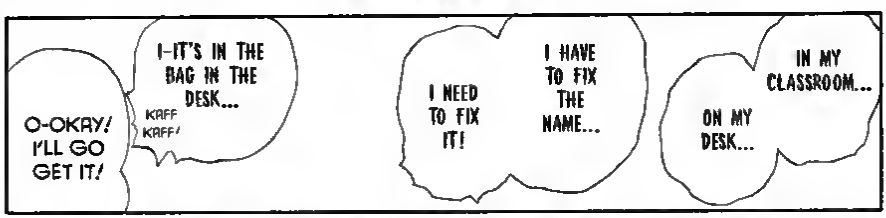
WHAT HAPPENED, HARIMA...?

UH... UHNNNN...

TENMA-CHAN...
...DOESN'T LOVE ME. DOESN'T THINK ANYTHING OF ME AT ALL!
HARIMA-SAN...
WHY ARE YOU IN THE TEA CLUB ROOM?
BZZZZ
BWAAA
BZT







NAME: A ROUGH SKETCH VERSION (INCLUDING ALL DIALOG) OF WHAT WILL EVENTUALLY BE A MANGA INSTALLMENT.

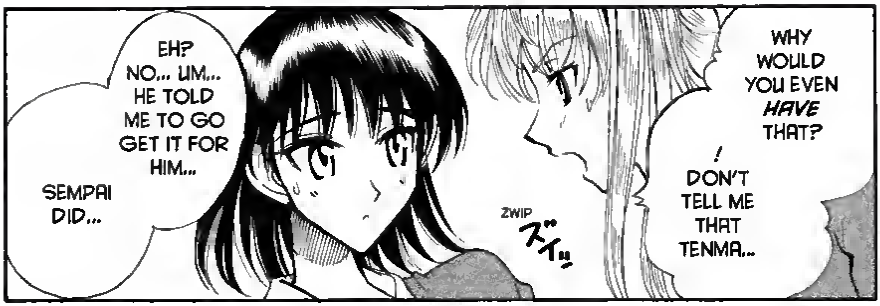
2-C
HMM...
HARIMA
BESIDES...
...IT'S THE THOUGHT THAT COUNTS WITH THESE KIND OF GIFT.
SHF
FOR ME, THIS WAS A JOB WELL DONE!
YEP!
WELL!
I'LL JUST LEAVE IT ON THE DESK...
THIS ISN'T SOMETHING I CAN REALLY GIVE IN PERSON...
POFF
YES...
THIS WILL GIVE HIM A LITTLE SURPRISE!
THIS'LL DO IT.
SHUMP

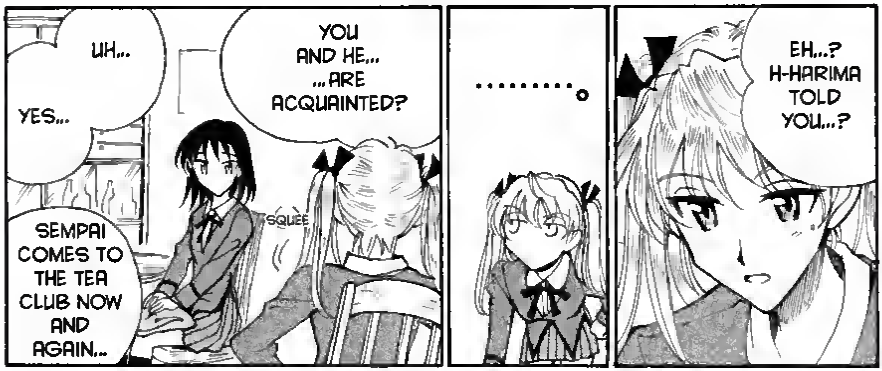
LET'S SEE... THE DESK NEXT TO NEE-SAN'S...
HERE...?
カラ...
SHUMP
WHEN HE SAID NAME... DID HE MEAN THE NAME ON THE BACK?
A JERSEY...?
THIS...?
MAYBE...?
HE SAID A BAG...
I SHOULD MAKE SURE.
HARIMA-SAN... KNEW THAT HIS SEWING WAS PRETTY BAD...
そわ CHATTER
そわ CHATTER
HARIMA-SAN...
カチャ
KACHAK!
HE'S GONE...
BACK IN THE OLD SCHOOLHOUSE...

HE MAY GET MAD AT ME FOR IT, BUT...
WHY DON'T I FIX IT?
A LITTLE WORRIED ABOUT IT.
AKIRA, ARE YOU IN HERE?

86 . . . . . Fin

#87 THE WRONG WOMAN

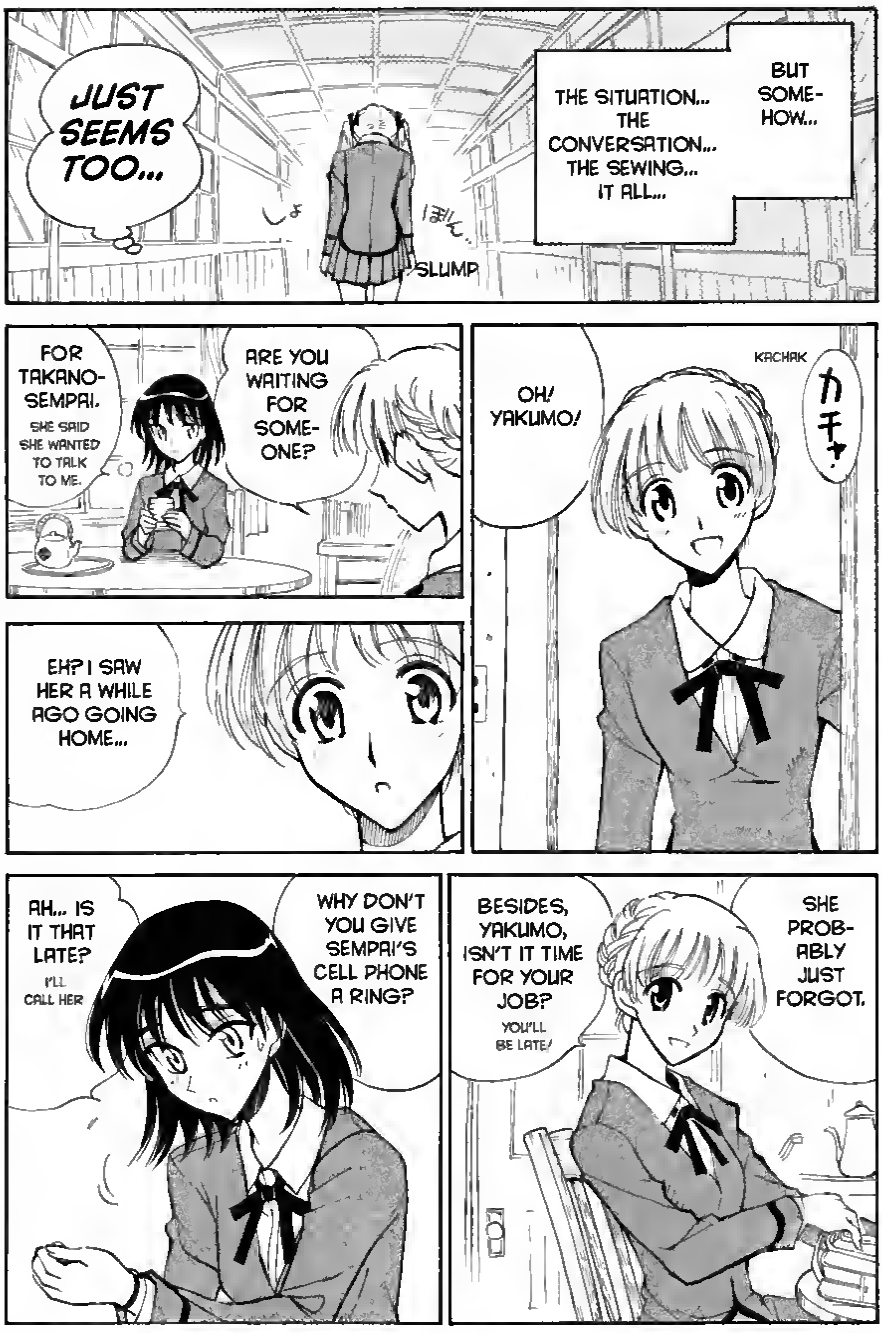

WHY WOULD YOU EVEN HAVE THAT?
!
DON'T TELL ME THAT TENMA...
ZWIP
ズイッ
EH? NO... UM... HE TOLD ME TO GO GET IT FOR HIM...
SEMPAI DID...

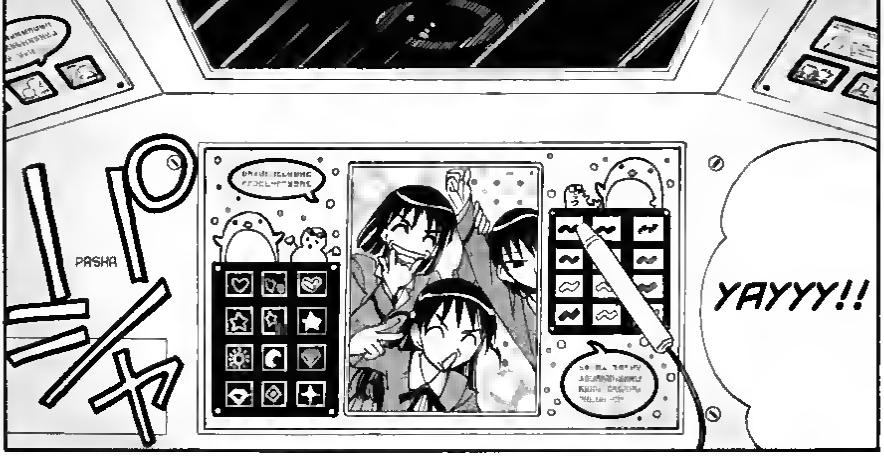

EH...? H-HARIMA TOLD YOU...?
.....。
YOU AND HE... ...ARE ACQUAINTED?
UH... YES...
SQUEE
SEMPAI COMES TO THE TEA CLUB NOW AND AGAIN...

AH.
IS THAT SO?
HMM...
AND?
YOU'LL KEEP THIS MANGA THING A SECRET, RIGHT?
A SECRET FROM YOUR SISTER AND ANY OF HER FRIENDS, RIGHT?
ほいわん BWARN
ほいわん BWARN
CAN'T SAY ANYTHING
?

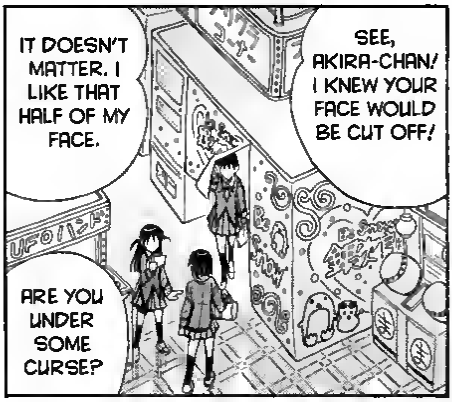
WELL! IF EVER YOU SEE A NAME ON A JERSEY THAT'S NOT SEWN VERY WELL, YOU ALWAYS FIX IT, RIGHT?
THAT'S JUST AMAZING!
.....
//
I GUESS...
...THAT'S JUST YOUR PERSONALITY, HUH?
ALWAYS LOOKING AFTER PEOPLE.
JUST AMAZING
Y-YEAH...
EH...
UM...
NOT ALWAYS...

WELL!! THAT'S JUST AMAZING!
OH, MY! YOU'VE SEWN IT VERY WELL, HAVEN'T YOU?
WOULD YOU MIND IF I TOOK A LOOK?
UM... G-GO AHEAD...
CHINK
.....!
HERE. THANK YOU.
I WISH I COULD SEW AS WELL AS YOU CAN.
KACHAK
SEE YOU.
IT MIGHT BE THAT SHE'S SIMPLY BEING A NICE PERSON.
WELL, IF SHE IS OR IF SHE ISN'T, IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH ME!


JUST SEEMS TOO...
しょぼん...
SLUMP
THE SITUATION... THE CONVERSATION... THE SEWING... IT ALL...
BUT SOME-HOW...
FOR TAKANO-SEMPAI.
SHE SAID SHE WANTED TO TALK TO ME.
ARE YOU WAITING FOR SOME-ONE?
KACHAK
カチャ
OH! YAKUMO!
EH? I SAW HER A WHILE AGO GOING HOME...
AH... IS IT THAT LATE?
I'LL CALL HER
WHY DON'T YOU GIVE SEMPAI'S CELL PHONE A RING?
BESIDES, YAKUMO, ISN'T IT TIME FOR YOUR JOB?
YOU'LL BE LATE!
SHE PROB-ABLY JUST FORGOT.


PASHA
YAYYY!!

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING! THAT'S WHY WE SHOULD BE HAVING FUN!
BUT SHOULD WE BE DOING THIS? PLAYING LIKE THIS RIGHT BEFORE MID-TERMS?
TO FORGET! TO FORGET!
.....

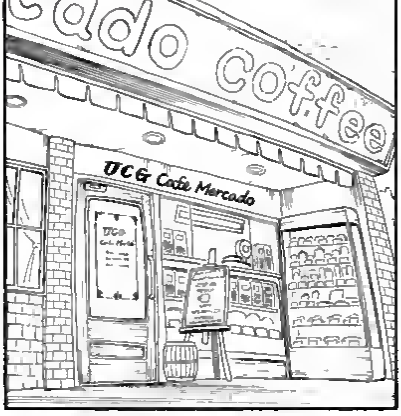

IT DOESN'T MATTER. I LIKE THAT HALF OF MY FACE.
SEE, AKIRA-CHAN! I KNEW YOUR FACE WOULD BE CUT OFF!
ARE YOU UNDER SOME CURSE?

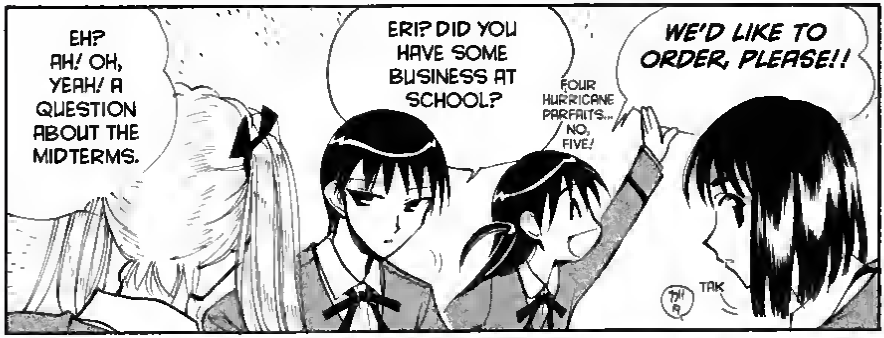
I'M SURE ERI WILL WANT TO COME, TOO!
PEEP
PEEP
WHERE'S MY PHONE?

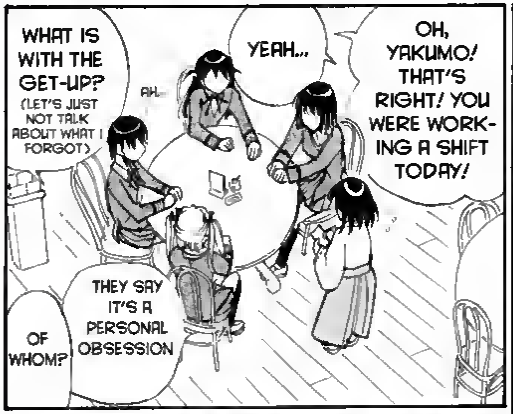
RIGHT! IT'S TIME FOR A HURRICANE PARFAIT AT MERCADO!!
THEY'RE DELICIOUS!
WELL, IT COULDN'T HAVE BEEN VERY IMPORTANT. AFTER ALL.
GOOD IDEA!!

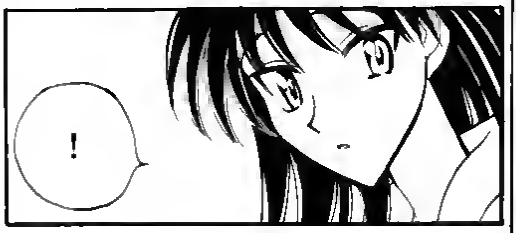
IT'S PROBABLY SOMETHING TO DO WITH YOUR JOBS.
HMM... IT SEEMS LIKE I'VE FORGOTTEN SOMETHING.
NO... I WOULDN'T FORGET THAT

YOU'RE LATE!


cado coffee
UCC Café Mercado

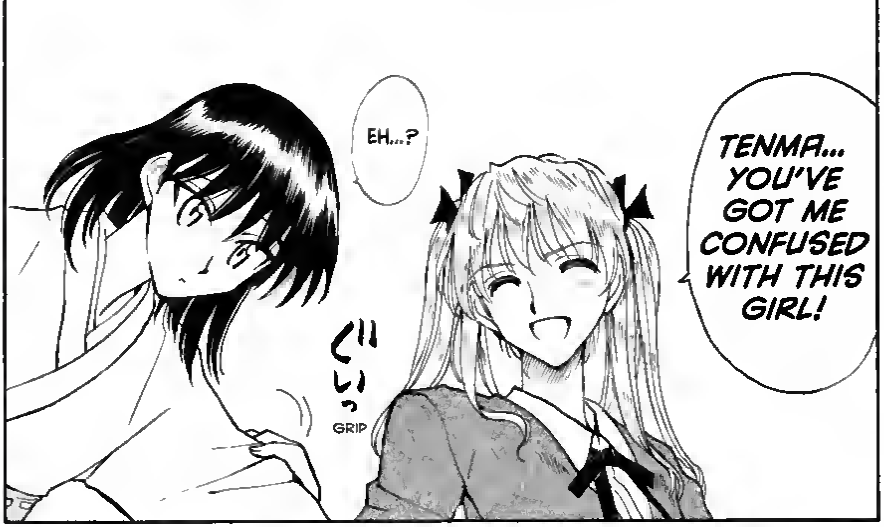

EH? AH! OH, YEAH! A QUESTION ABOUT THE MIDTERMS.
ERI? DID YOU HAVE SOME BUSINESS AT SCHOOL?
FOUR HURRICANE PARFAITS... NO, FIVE!
WE'D LIKE TO ORDER, PLEASE!!
TAK

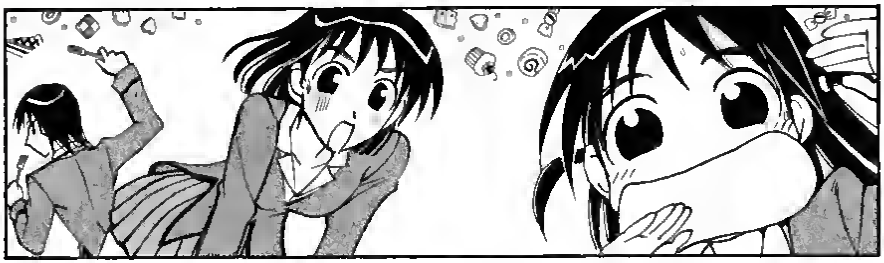

WHAT IS WITH THE GET-UP? (LET'S JUST NOT TALK ABOUT WHAT I FORGOT)
AH...
YEAH...
OH, YAKUMO! THAT'S RIGHT! YOU WERE WORKING A SHIFT TODAY!
OF WHOM?
THEY SAY IT'S A PERSONAL OBSESSION


!

AH!
NEE-SAN...
WITH YOUR SEMPAI FRIENDS...

LET'S SEE...
WHAT'LL I HAVE?
UM...
MENU
CHING
CHING
YOU DON'T HAVE...
...BLOODY MARYS?
EH...
A BLOODY MARY.
FOR ME
AH...
N-NO...
I'M SORRY.
TH-THAT'S A LITTLE...
OH, THAT'S RIGHT! ERI-CHAN, YOU AND HARIMA-KUN ARE ALL LOVEY-DOVEY NOW, HUH?!
DID HE SAY HE LOVES YOU?
E-EH...
WH-WHAT?
KREEK
I SEE.
NEXT TIME YOU'RE COMING TO THE AMUSEMENT PARK.

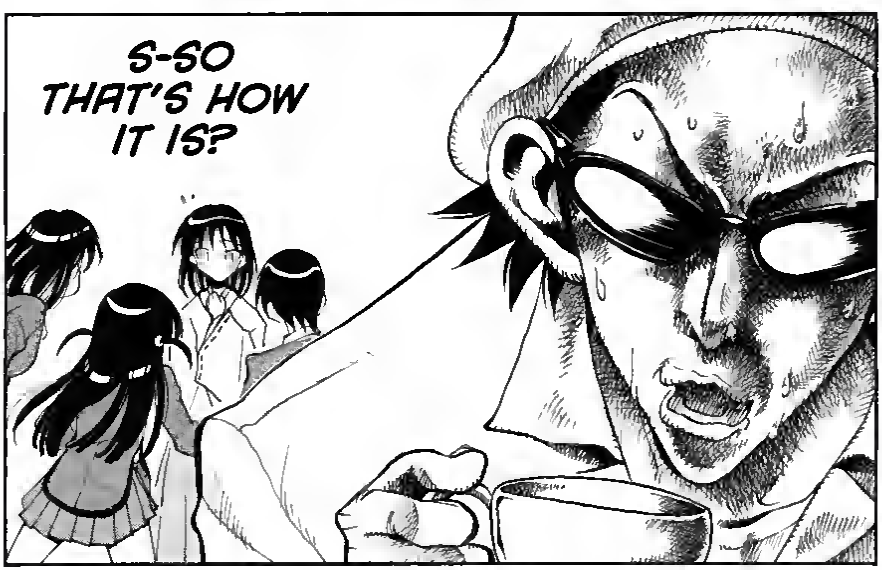

TENMA... YOU'VE GOT ME CONFUSED WITH THIS GIRL!
EH...?
GRIP



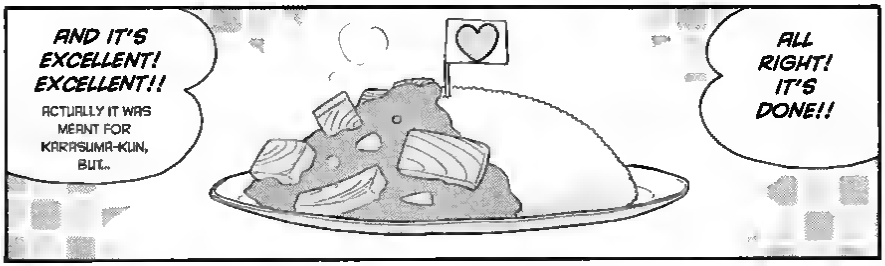
EH??! WHAT? WHAT? WHAT IS ALL THIS?!
WHY YAKUMO?!
OH, DEAR! YOU'RE HER SISTER AND YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW?
WELL DONE, GIRLIE!
EHP N-NO--
YOU'RE KIDDING! YAKUMO?
AND HERE I WAS POSITIVE THAT ERI-CHAN AND HARIMA-KUN WERE...
YAKUMO! I WANT YOU TO ANSWER YOUR SISTER'S QUESTION WITH THE ABSOLUTE TRUTH!
HAVE YOU BEEN SEEING A LOT OF HARIMA-KUN LATELY?
NOW, LOOK ME IN THE EYE!
GRATCH

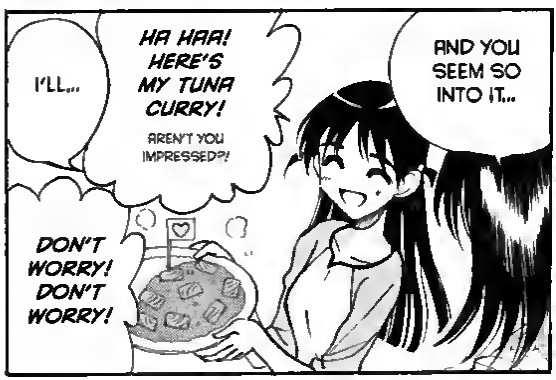
U-UM...
UH...
YEAH...

EH? EH? NO...
YOU'VE GOT IT ALL WRONG...
I-I-IS THAT RIGHT?!
WHEN DID YOU START DATING HIM?!
KACHAK
カチャ
AMAZING!!!


S-SO THAT'S HOW IT IS?

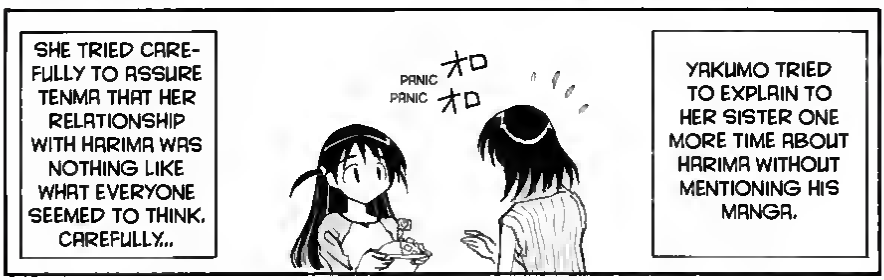
87 · · · · · · · · · Fin



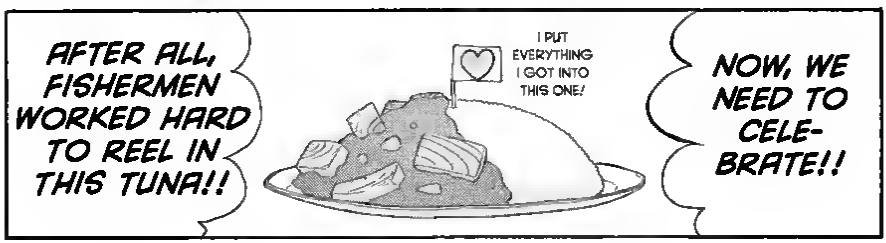


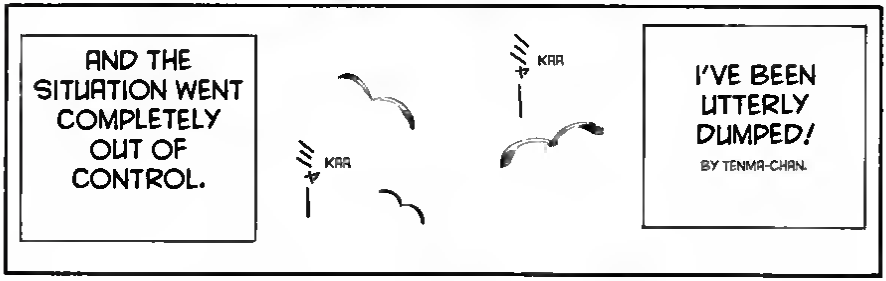
#88 | SOULS AT SEA

NEE-SAN... ABOUT WHAT WAS SAID AT THE COFFEE SHOP...
UM...
Y-YOU REMEMBER...
ABOUT ME...AND H-HARIMA-SAN... AND HOW WE...


SHE TRIED CAREFULLY TO ASSURE TENMA THAT HER RELATIONSHIP WITH HARIMA WAS NOTHING LIKE WHAT EVERYONE SEEMED TO THINK. CAREFULLY...
PANIC
PANIC
YAKUMO TRIED TO EXPLAIN TO HER SISTER ONE MORE TIME ABOUT HARIMA WITHOUT MENTIONING HIS MANGA.

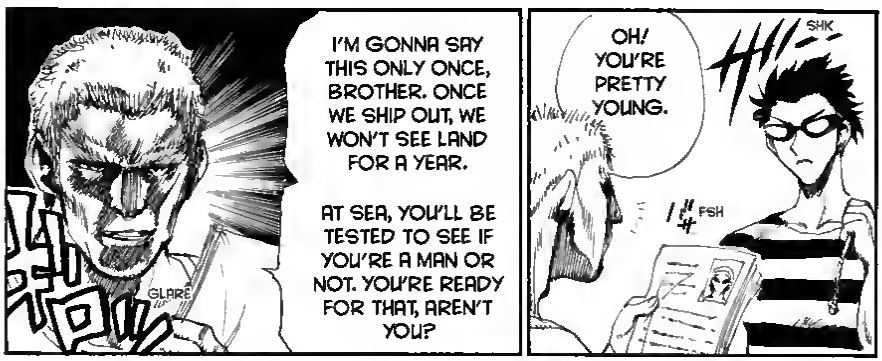
I'M SURE YOU AND HE WILL DO JUST FINE!!
YOU'RE MADE FOR EACH OTHER!
EH... EH...? B-BUT THAT'S WHAT I MEAN! IT ISN'T LIKE THAT...
WINK
GWIP
YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THAT!!
EVERYBODY SAYS THAT AT THE START!
YAKUMO!


AFTER ALL, FISHERMEN WORKED HARD TO REEL IN THIS TUNA!!
I PUT EVERYTHING I GOT INTO THIS ONE!
NOW, WE NEED TO CELE-BRATE!!



In Some Harbor.

YOU'RE OUT!
TOO SCRAWNY! GO HOME!
B-BUT...
OH? YOU USED TO BE IN THE MILITARY? YOU PASS.


I'M GONNA SAY THIS ONLY ONCE, BROTHER. ONCE WE SHIP OUT, WE WON'T SEE LAND FOR A YEAR.
AT SEA, YOU'LL BE TESTED TO SEE IF YOU'RE A MAN OR NOT. YOU'RE READY FOR THAT, AREN'T YOU?
GLARE
OH! YOU'RE PRETTY YOUNG.
SHK
FSH

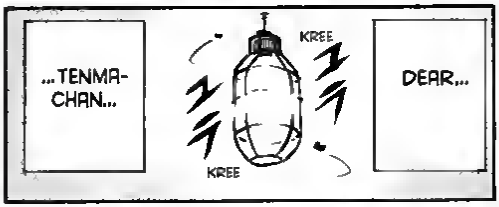
YEAH, I KNOW...

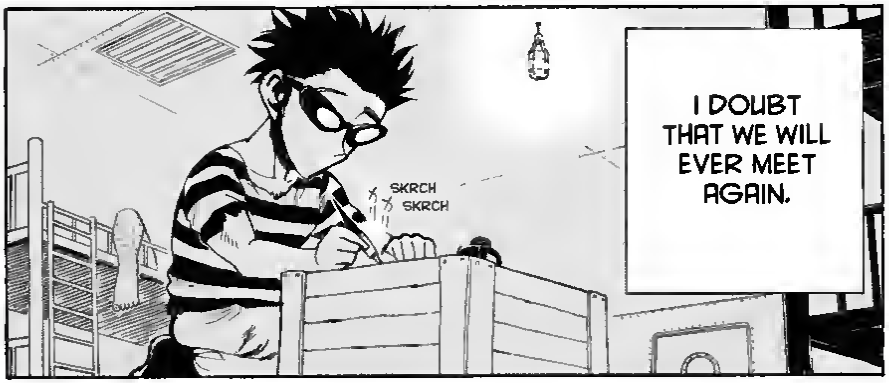
TONK
TENMA-CHAN...
YOU GOT SOME NERVE MAKING YOURSELF COMFY WITHOUT PAYING YOUR RESPECTS TO ME FIRST!!
SHAA
HEY, NEW MEAT!!
THAT'S BECAUSE THIS PLACE IS A HELL THAT EVEN ONI WAIL AND RUN AWAY FROM!!
I'M GONNA GIVE IT TO YOU STRAIGHT! THIS BOAT IS CALLED THE KIKOKU-MARU!!
KYA HAA
EXACTLY!
H-HE'S PRETTY SCARY...
GRMP
ARE YOU SURE ABOUT THIS, ÔTANI-SAN? THE OLD MAN'S UP ON DECK RIGHT NOW...
HEY! STAND UP!
BUT YOU CAN RELAX. I'LL TEACH YOU WHAT MANNERS ARE NEEDED HERE IN HELL.
FIRST, GET UP ON DECK!

DOOM
WHA--?!
WHAT HAPPENED HERE?!
A DECK BRUSH...?
NO!! THOSE ARE THE OLD MEMORIES...!!!
SHH
SHH
ON DECK...
KID...
YOU'D BETTER PICK UP THAT TRASH!
And the Captain.

SHUSH

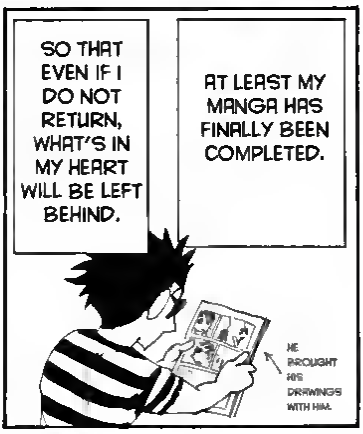
HERE, MY WORD IS LAW!! JUST REMEMBER THAT!!
AND YOU'D BETTER TAKE CARE NOT TO END UP LIKE HIM!
VATCH

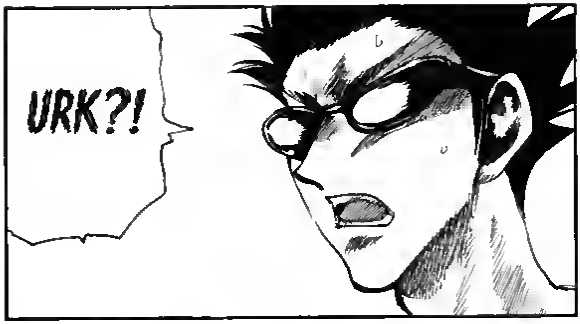

...TENMA-CHAN...
KREE
KREE
DEAR...

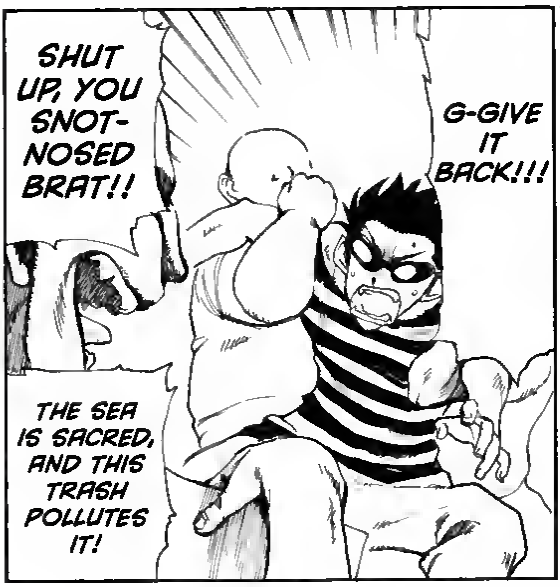

SKRCH
SKRCH
I DOUBT THAT WE WILL EVER MEET AGAIN.

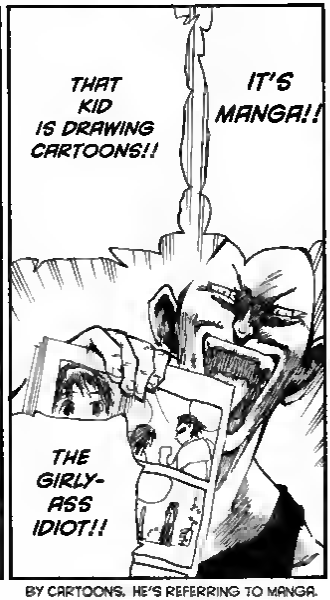
KAPLOOSH

SHP
SHP


SO THAT EVEN IF I DO NOT RETURN, WHAT'S IN MY HEART WILL BE LEFT BEHIND.
AT LEAST MY MANGA HAS FINALLY BEEN COMPLETED.
HE BROUGHT HIS DRAWINGS WITH HIM.







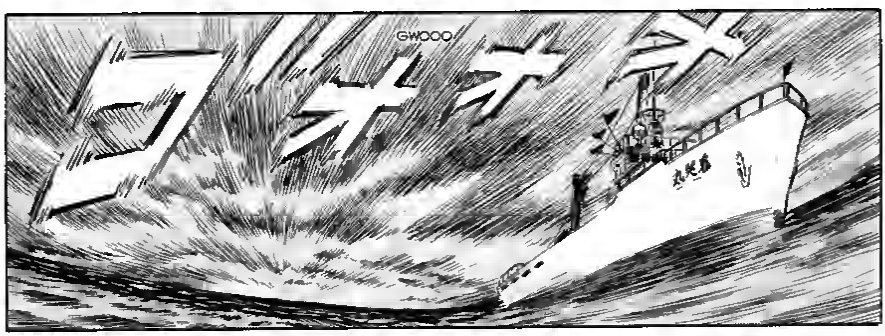
BY CARTOONS. HE'S REFERRING TO MANGA.

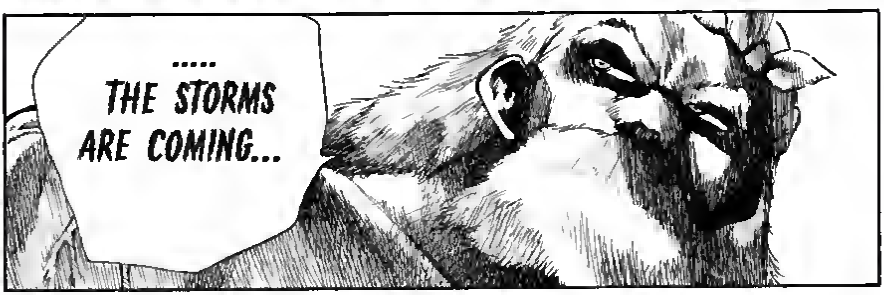
HA!
BRAAACH
HERE'S WHAT I'LL DO WITH IT!!
YOU LITTLE...!!!
YOUR HANDS ARE GONNA BE SMASHED!!
THIS IS PUNISHMENT SO YOU NEVER DO IT AGAIN!!
SHINING
GWAA
HYA HA HA HA!!
HAKK
WHAT I'M SAYING IS, THIS AIN'T AKI-HABARA!
GRATCH
GAAH!

C-
CAPTAIN?!
WH-
WHY?!
GWIMM
GRATCH

E-
EHH?!
THIS IS NO TIME FOR PLAY! YOU WANNA DIE?!

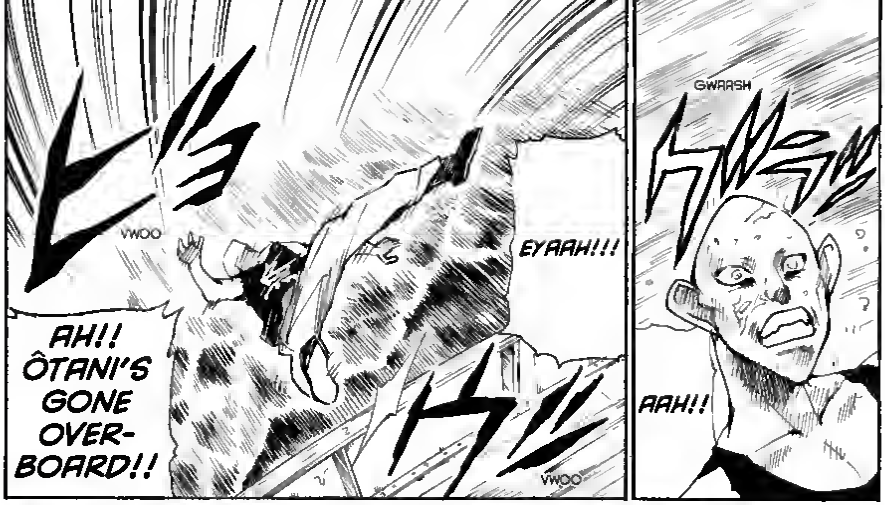
GLARE


GWOOO


.....
THE STORMS ARE COMING...

88 · · · · · · · · · Fin

#89 THE RESCUERS

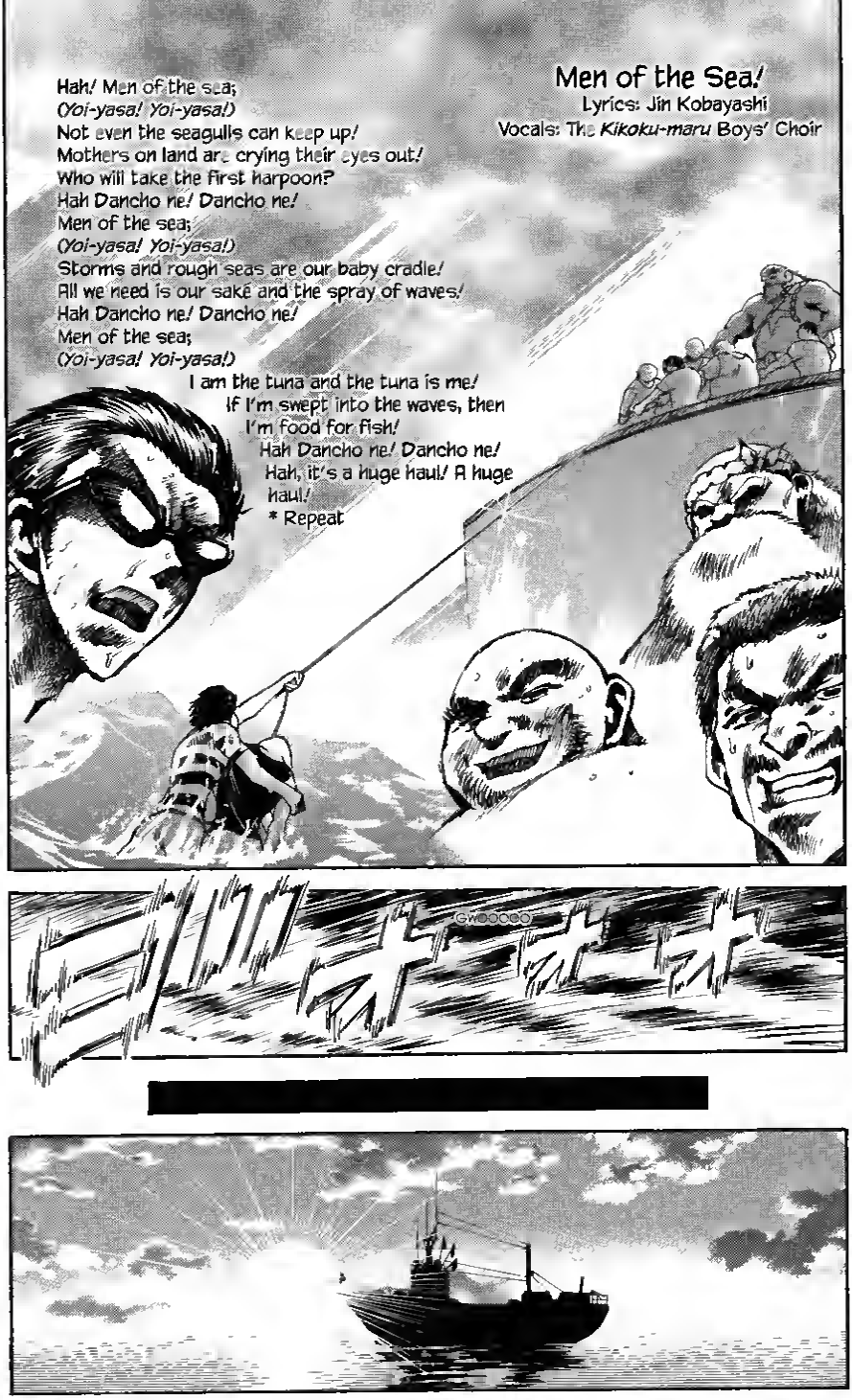

VWOO
EYAAH!!!
AH!! ÔTANI'S GONE OVER-BOARD!!
VWOO
GWRRSH
AAH!!

SAVE MEEE!!
HAHH!
DOBUUUSH
ÔTANI-SAN CAN'T SWIM!!
THEN WHAT'S HE DOING ABOARD A FISHING BOAT?!
TH--
THIS IS BAD!!
HURRY, GET A LIFE PRESERVER OUT THERE!!
WHAT'RE WE GONNA DO?!
GWNN

HUH?!
WHOOSH
DOES HE WANNA DIE? THAT'S WHY I HATE LAND-LUBBERS!!
THE NEW GUY JUST DIVED IN!!
GAK! THE ROPE ISN'T TIED TO THE BOAT!!
SHUUM
-ZL ZL ZL ZL
I-IT'S ALL OVER!!
HYAAHH!!

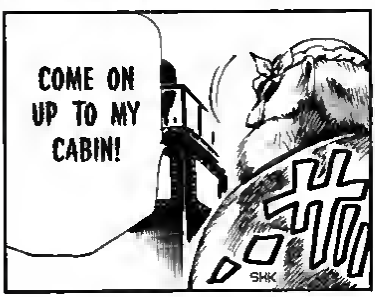
And a Demon King Lives on Its Surface.

GRRRNN
ALL HANDS, HELP THE OLD MAN!!
GRIP
GRIP
YAHH
THAT'S INCREDIBLE!!
HE'S HOLDING ON!!
TH--
SING, YOU BAS-TARDS!!!
SING!!
GLARE
W-WE CAN'T DO IT!!
NGG-AAH!


Men of the Sea!
Lyrics: Jin Kobayashi
Vocals: The *Kikoku-maru* Boys' Choir
Hah! Men of the sea;
(Yoi-yasa! Yoi-yasa!)
Not even the seagulls can keep up!
Mothers on land are crying their eyes out!
Who will take the first harpoon?
Hah Dancho ne! Dancho ne!
Men of the sea;
(Yoi-yasa! Yoi-yasa!)
Storms and rough seas are our baby cradle!
All we need is our sake and the spray of waves!
Hah Dancho ne! Dancho ne!
Men of the sea;
(Yoi-yasa! Yoi-yasa!)
I am the tuna and the tuna is me!
If I'm swept into the waves, then
I'm food for fish!
Hah Dancho ne! Dancho ne!
Hah, it's a huge haul! A huge haul!
* Repeat
Yoi-yasa! Yoi-yasa!

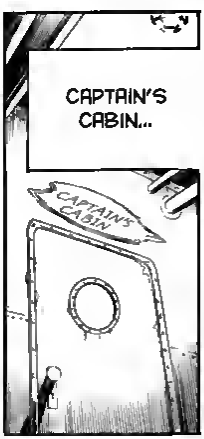
HUFF!
WHEEZE! WHEEZE!
HUFF!
WHEEZE!
HUFF!

HEH...
HEH HEH HEH HEH!
I'M SURPRISED YOU HAD IT IN YOU, NEW KID!
RIGHT! FROM NOW ON, YOUR NAME WILL BE CARTOON BOY!


COME ON UP TO MY CABIN!
SHK

HOW LONG DO YOU PLAN ON SLEEPING THERE?!
KONK
UNFF!!

UR...!!


CAPTAIN'S CABIN...
CAPTAIN'S CABIN

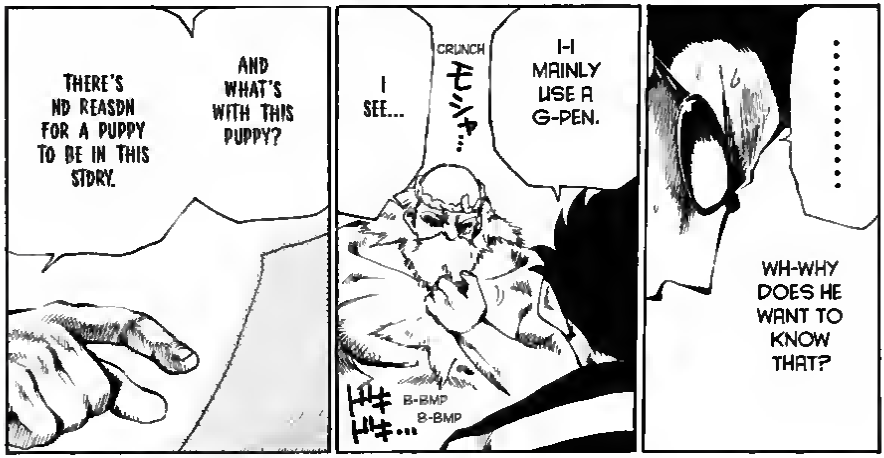
HE'S NOT GOING TO TAKE CARTOON BOY UP TO BE TORTURED, IS HE?!
TH-THE CAPTAIN CAN'T MEAN...

...UM...
THANKS... FOR RESCUING ME.
FLIP
I WAS JUST HOPING TO DO SOME DRAWING DURING ANY FREE TIME I HAD...
U... UM... THAT'S...
HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN SINCE YOU STARTED DRAWING?
TWITCH
FWAPP

CRUNCH CRUNCH
I-IT'LL BE A LITTLE OVER THREE MONTHS...
Y-YES, SIR...
KID... YOU LIKE THESE CARTOONS?
キラーン
GLEEM
……!!
コク…
NOD
……

....For Some Reason, Sawachika Looks Divine...

89.....Fin

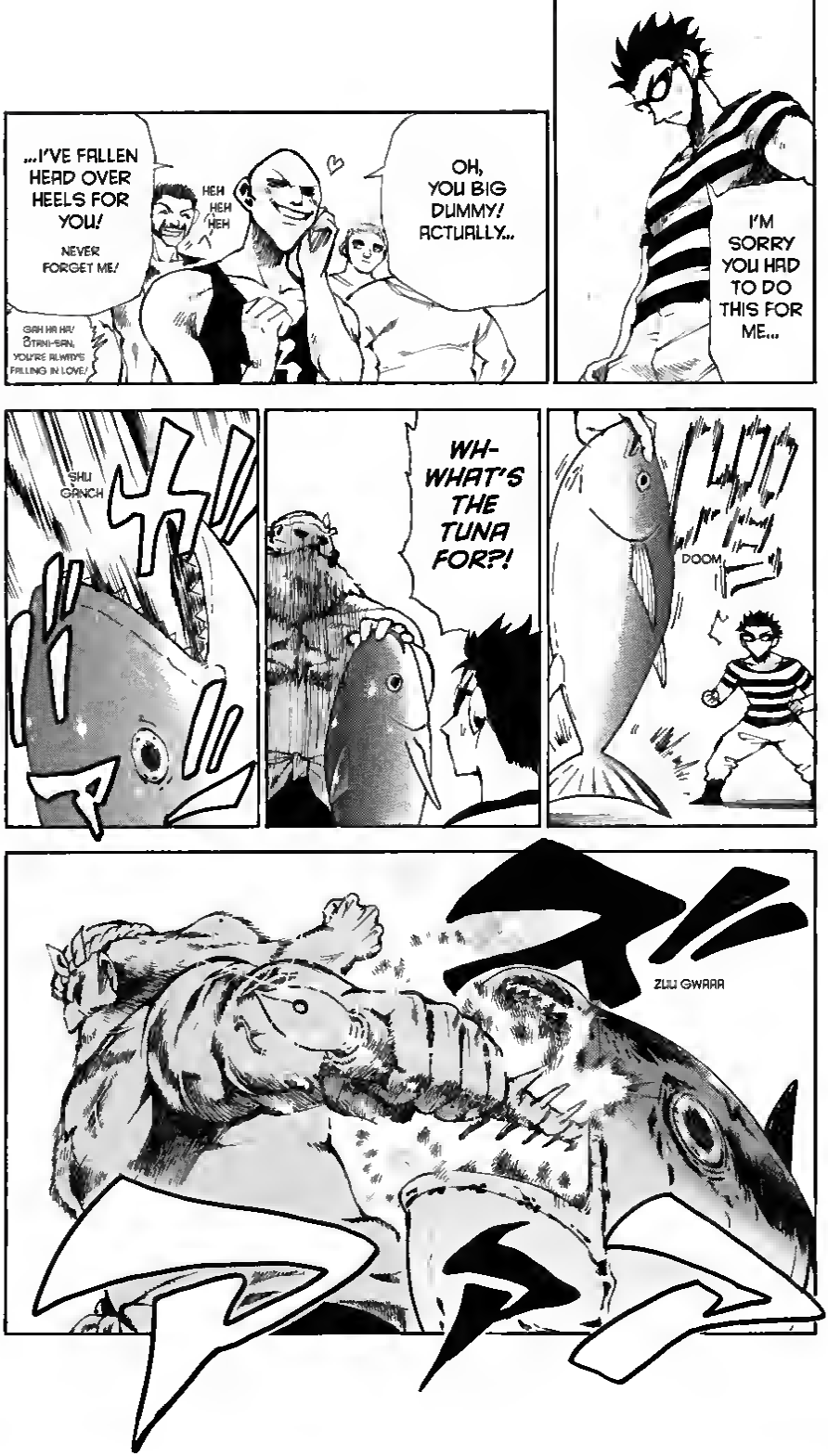

THERE'S NO REASON FOR A PUPPY TO BE IN THIS STORY.
AND WHAT'S WITH THIS PUPPY?
I SEE...
CRUNCH モシャ...
I-I MAINLY USE A G-PEN.
B-BMP B-BMP
.....
WH-WHY DOES HE WANT TO KNOW THAT?

#90 THE SHOOTIST

Captain: He's Strict.

THE MANGA IS CRAP. BUT I SEE THE SOUL IN THIS GIRL!!
SHE'S REALLY GOOD!
.....!!
FRSH
WHA—?!
BUT KIO. YOU'RE MAKING ONE BIG MISTAKE!
3
MANGA IS NOT A MEANS OF ESCAPE!!

Captain: Overflowing with Masculinity.

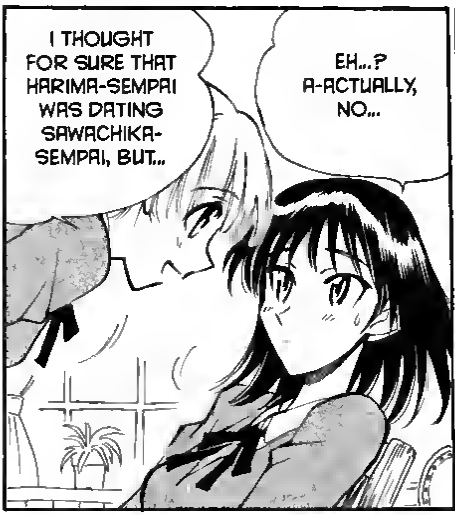

I'M SORRY YOU HAD TO DO THIS FOR ME...
DOOM
OH, YOU BIG DUMMY! ACTUALLY...
HEH HEH HEH
...I'VE FALLEN HEAD OVER HEELS FOR YOU!
NEVER FORGET ME!
GAH HA HA! ŌTANI-SAN, YOU'RE ALWAYS FALLING IN LOVE!
WH-WHAT'S THE TUNA FOR?!
SHU GANCH
ZUU GWAAA

TH-THAT THING'S ANCIENT! UH... I MEAN, WELL USED!!
I-IT'S A PEN NIB HOLDER?!
THAT WAS A LONG TIME AGO. AFTER PUTTING OUT TWO GRAPHIC-NOVEL VOLUMES, BOTH MY PEN AND I STARTED FALLING APART.
C-CAPTAIN, IT CAN'T BE THAT YOU'RE ALSO A...
UFF!
B-BONES?!
TAKE IT!
ZLAMM
HE MAY BE AN OOO CHARACTER, BUT HE KNOWS GOOD MANGA WHEN HE SEES IT. SO STOP WORRYING ABOUT IT.
I KNOW THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF YOU TALKED ABOUT. HA! SO HE'S MOVED UP IN THE WORLD.
YOU JUST HAVE TO DO WHAT YOU MUST DO!!
LONELINESS IS THE SAME, WHETHER ON LAND OR AT SEA!

Pen: Way Too Big.

I WILL... SUCCEED!
TEACHER...

AT SCHOOL...

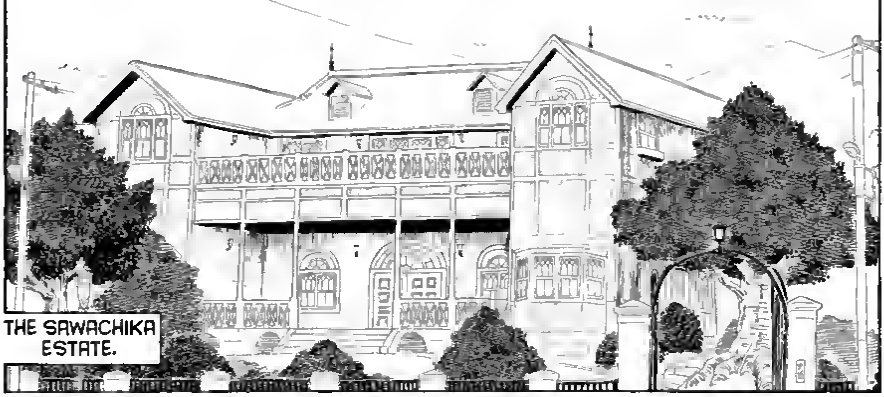

I THOUGHT FOR SURE THAT HARIMA-SEMPAI WAS DATING SAWACHIKA-SEMPAI, BUT...
EH...? A-ACTUALLY, NO...

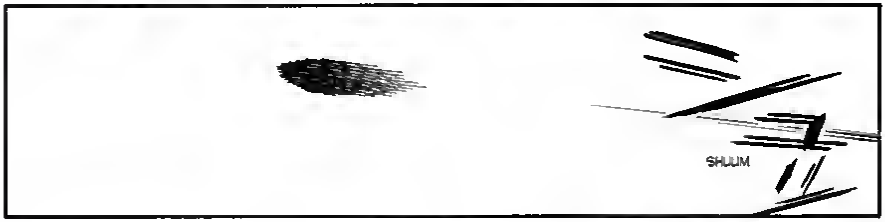
I HEARD ALL ABOUT IT, YAKUMO!
ARE YOU REALLY DATING HARIMA-SEMPAI?

SO...
...THAT WAS SAWA-CHIKA-SEMPAI...

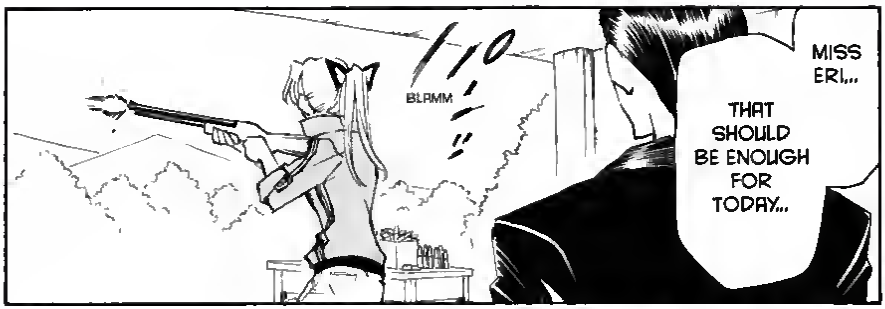
KREE
カラ...
NO-BODY'S... HERE...
?
YESTER-DAY...

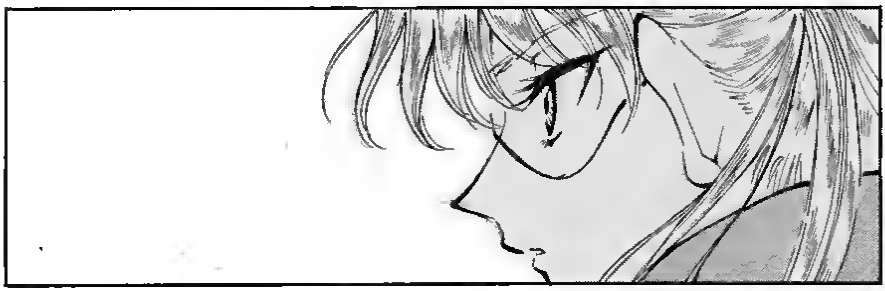
TMP
TMP

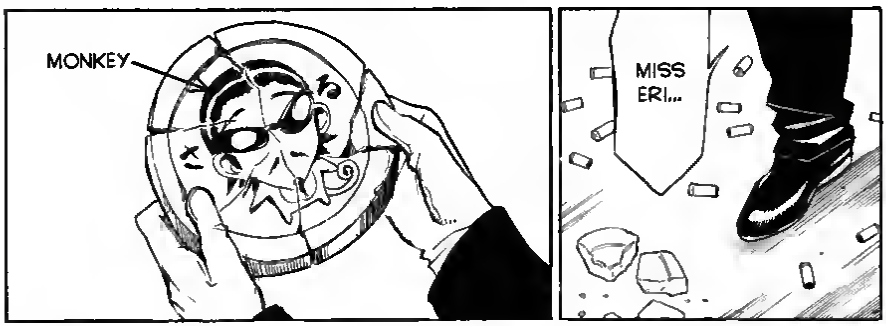

THE SAWACHIKA ESTATE.


SHUUM

BLAMM
BLAMM
CHAKLL

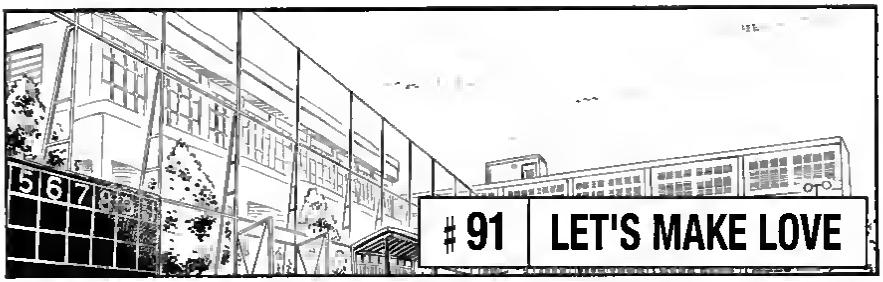

BLAMM
MISS ERI...
THAT SHOULD BE ENOUGH FOR TODAY...



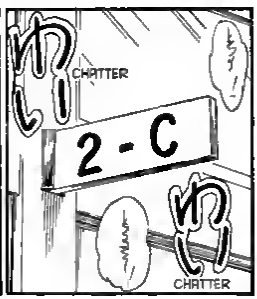

MONKEY
MISS ERI...

TEACHER'S MANGA IS...
...REALLY DULL.
AT A USED BOOKSHOP...

90 . . . . . Fin


5 6 7 8
91
LET'S MAKE LOVE

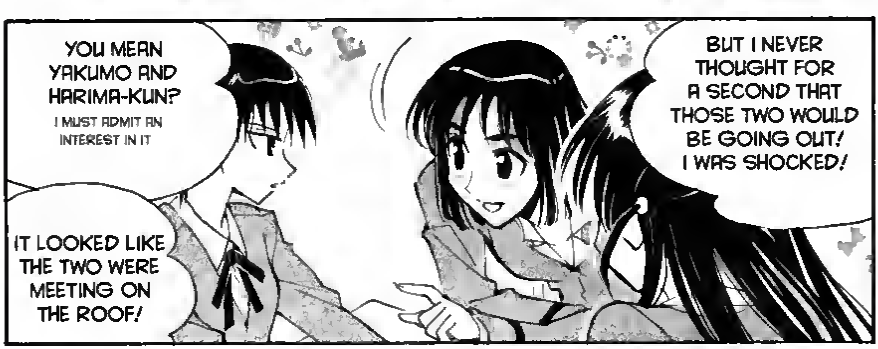
I WASTED TOO MUCH TIME HAVING FUN!


CHATTER
2 - C
CHATTER

SO SHE'S OUT AGAIN TODAY, HUH?

ERI-CHAN! THIS ENGLISH HERE... WHAT DOES IT MEAN?!

OF COURSE, I DID WARN YOU!
AND I HAVEN'T STUDIED FOR MY MIDTERMS AT ALL!!
BUT YOU WERE HAVING FUN WITH ME!!


YOU MEAN YAKUMO AND HARIMA-KUN?
I MUST ADMIT AN INTEREST IN IT
IT LOOKED LIKE THE TWO WERE MEETING ON THE ROOF!
BUT I NEVER THOUGHT FOR A SECOND THAT THOSE TWO WOULD BE GOING OUT! I WAS SHOCKED!

I'M NOT LETTING YOU GUYS GO UP AND GET IN THEIR WAY!
THE VERY BEGINNING OF A NEW LOVE IS THE MOST IMPORTANT!
JUST LEAVE THEM ALONE/
SISTER-SAN, COME WITH ME AND PLEASE DON'T ASK QUESTIONS.
MY DREAM CAN ONLY BE HERE ON LAND.
SHKK

Previously a Fisherman.

ON THE ROOF...
AND RIGHT HERE, IT GOES KABOOM!!
RIGHT. THIS IS HOW IT TURNS OUT HERE...
RIGHT...
REALLY...
STARE
HARIMA KENJI
NO... I THINK IT'S VERY ENTERTAINING.
SO IT REALLY IS WEIRD...?
NO, SISTER-SAN! I THINK THAT IT'S BEST THERE!
AND I DON'T NEED THE DOG!
O-OKAY...
U-UM... THIS IS A LOVE STORY, SO GOING KABOOM...
Y-YEAH, MAYBE... I REALLY LIKE WHAT I'VE DONE WITH IT, BUT...
...WHEN YOU PUT IT THAT WAY...
や?...
HMM...
BUT I HAVE THE FEELING THAT SOMETHING THAT'S FUN TO DRAW IS DIFFERENT FROM SOMETHING THAT'S INTERESTING TO READ...
I THINK YOU SHOULD MAKE THIS A LITTLE EASIER TO UNDERSTAND...

SISTER-SAN...
THE FACT THAT WE WERE MEETING UP HERE TODAY...
...DID YOU MENTION IT TO ANYBODY?
EH...?
NO... NOBODY...
WE'RE BEING FOLLOWED.
IT COULD BE THAT OUR SECRET'S OUT.
EH?
4
SLOWLY そろり...
SLOWLY そろり...
?

POING.

WAAA?!
TSUKA-
MOTO.
TMP TMP TMP TMP TMP TMP TMP
THE SOUND OF SOMEONE RUNNING AWAY.
AND A FEW MORE.
I'M MAKING ASTRO-NOMICAL OBSERVA-TIONS.
IT'S OKAY. YOU DON'T HAVE TO ANSWER.
UH... UM...
WELL... YOU SEE... ER...
WILT WILT
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?
LOOK HERE.
EH?
EH?
SORRY! I WAS A LITTLE WORRIED...
AH HA HA HA!!

WOULDN'T YOU BE CONCERNED?
ZU
ぼそ
POPE
I MEAN, MY LITTLE SISTER IS DATING A FRIEND OF MINE...

OH, COME ON...
YOU'VE GOT IT ALL WRONG!!!

YOU DON'T HAVE TO SAY ANYTHING!!
I'M PERFECTLY FINE WITH IT!
NO...
THIS IS JUST... IT'S...
I'VE GOT MY WORRIES, BUT...
YOU SEE, YAKUMO IS MY PRECIOUS LITTLE SISTER.
SHE'S NOT ONLY CUTE, BUT A LITTLE NAIVE.
I'M HAPPY FOR THE TRUST, BUT IT'S SO PAINFUL!
NICE WORDS...
BUT SINCE SHE'S DATING YOU, HARIMA-KUN, I KNOW SHE'S IN SAFE HANDS!
YAKUMO'S A LUCKY GIRL!
ABOUT WHAT?
ABOUT MY MAN--
NO! THAT ISN'T IT!
WE WERE JUST HAVING A MEETING!!

I CAN'T SAY IT...!!
I CAN'T TELL HER THAT I'M DRAWING MANGA!!
MY M...
...MON-GOOSE.
MON-GOOSE!!
OH, REALLY? A MONGOOSE, HUH?
WHAT'S A MONGOOSE?
HARIMA-SAN...?
OH, YEAH! THREE'S A CROWD! I'D BETTER GET MOVING!
OKAY, THEN! GIVE IT YOUR BEST SHOT, HARIMA-KUN!
PAT PAT
OH! ONE MORE THING...

IF THIS IS A GAME TO YOU, IT WILL MAKE HER VERY UNHAPPY.
IF YOU EVER MAKE YAKUMO CRY, I WILL NEVER FORGIVE OR FORGET!

JUST NOW...
WERE YOU TALKING TO SOMEONE?
.....

SEE YA!!
JUST KIDDING! JUST KIDDING!

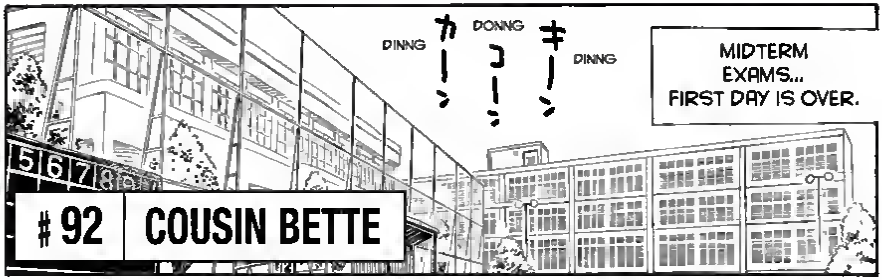
I THINK THERE IS SOMETHING THAT YOU SHOULD KNOW...
SISTER-SAN...
WHERE DID IT ALL GO WRONG?!

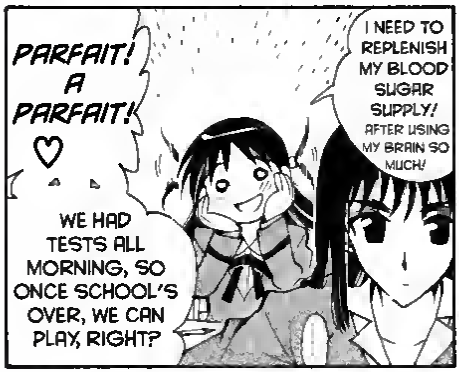
WHY...
JUST EXACTLY WHERE... WHERE...

.....
HARIMA-SAN...
WHY?!

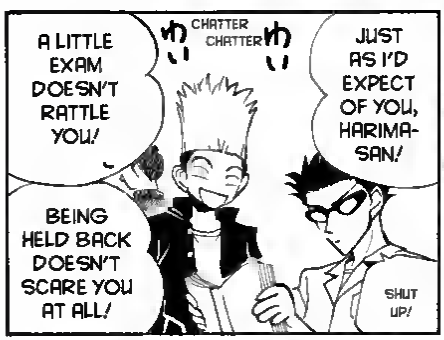
That's the Latest Development...So They Say.

91 · · · · · · · · · Fin

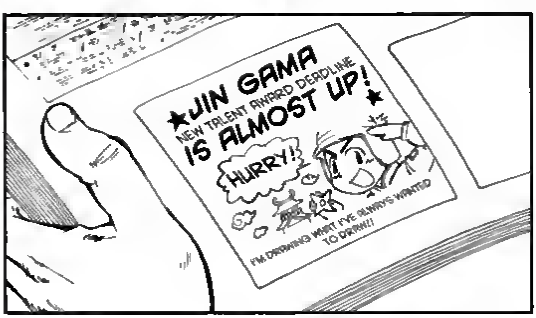

DINNG
カーン
DONNG
コーン
DINNG
キーン
MIDTERM EXAMS... FIRST DAY IS OVER.
5 6 7 8
92 COUSIN BETTE


PARFAIT! A PARFAIT!
I NEED TO REPLENISH MY BLOOD SUGAR SUPPLY! AFTER USING MY BRAIN SO MUCH!
WE HAD TESTS ALL MORNING, SO ONCE SCHOOL'S OVER, WE CAN PLAY, RIGHT?

IT'S ONLY BEEN ONE DAY.
IT'S OVER!!
BANZAI!
YAAY

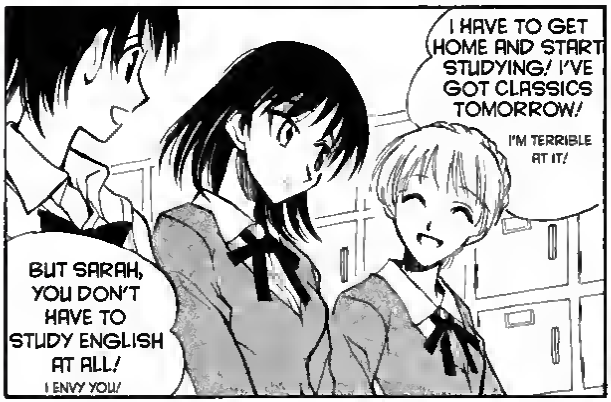

A LITTLE EXAM DOESN'T RATTLE YOU!
CHATTER CHATTER
JUST AS I'D EXPECT OF YOU, HARIMA-SAN!
BEING HELD BACK DOESN'T SCARE YOU AT ALL!
SHUT UP!

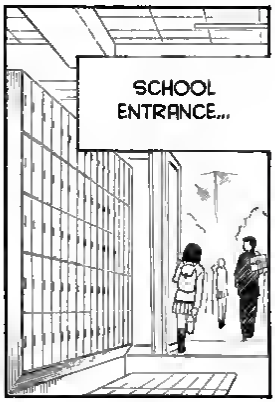
I GET THE FEELING THAT HE'S GIVEN UP AS WELL.
WAKE UP!!
SLAP
SLAP


★JIN GAMA NEW TALENT AWARD DEADLINE IS ALMOST UP!★
HURRY!!
I'M DRAWING WHAT I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO DRAW!!

HM?

I'LL NEVER MAKE IT IN TIME!!!
GAH!
D-DAMMIT!


I HAVE TO GET HOME AND START STUDYING! I'VE GOT CLASSICS TOMORROW!
I'M TERRIBLE AT IT!
BUT SARAH, YOU DON'T HAVE TO STUDY ENGLISH AT ALL!
I ENVY YOU!


SCHOOL ENTRANCE...

W-WAIT...
SEE YOU! ♡
WE'LL GO ON AHEAD!!

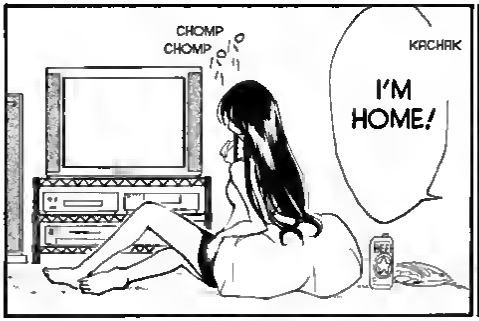
AH!
SISTER-SAN!
H-HARI-MA-SAN.
SHK

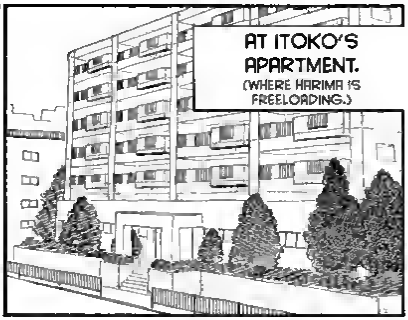
WILL YOU COME WITH ME?
I HAVE... TO SPEAK WITH YOU.
EH...

SISTER-SAN...

GO WITH HIM/
YAKUMO..
OKAY...

I-I DESPERATELY NEED YOUR HELP!!


CHOMP CHOMP
KACHAK
I'M HOME!


AT ITOKO'S APARTMENT.
(WHERE HARIMA IS FREELOADING.)

WE'LL BE CLOSETED UP IN MY ROOM FOR A WHILE. DON'T COME IN, OKAY?

OH, KENJI-KUN. YOU'RE HOME EARLY...

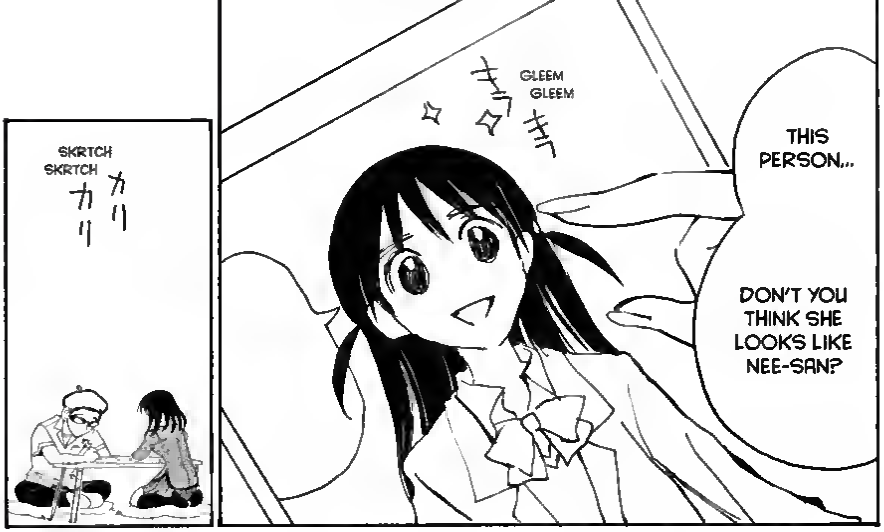
U-UM... JUST NOW, WASN'T SHE...
THIS WAY, SISTER-SAN.
PLIP
KENJI
SASAKURA-SENSEI
EH?
CALM DOWN! I CAN'T UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU'RE SAYING!
WHAT'S WRONG, ITOKO-SEMPAI?
I HATE TO JUMP RIGHT INTO IT, BUT HERE.
YOU SEE, THE DEADLINE IS ONLY THREE DAYS AWAY.
AT EXACTLY THE SAME TIME AS OUR MIDTERMS
WHUMP
I KNOW IT'S SELFISH OF ME, BUT IF YOU COULD SEE YOUR WAY CLEAR TO HELPING ME OUT OF A TIGHT SPOT...!!
PLEASE!! I'M BETTING EVERY-THING ON THIS WORK!!
UM... MY MIDTERMS ARE...
EH...?
U-UH...

SKRTCH SKRTCH
SKRTCH SKRTCH
SKRTCH SKRTCH
YOU ONLY PUT THE SCREENTONE IN AFTER THE INK HAS DRIED.
AH.. O-OKAY! I'M SORRY
AH! NO, YOU'RE DOING THAT WRONG.
SST
UM... HARIMA-SAN...
AH...
SKRTCH SKRTCH
5
YOU USE THE BOX CUTTER TO SHAVE OFF EXTRA TONE!
IF THERE IS ANYTHING YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND, JUST GO AHEAD AND ASK.
NO...
IT ISN'T ABOUT THAT...
WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU?
UM, SENSEI?
SHF SHF
THINKING REALLY HARD..

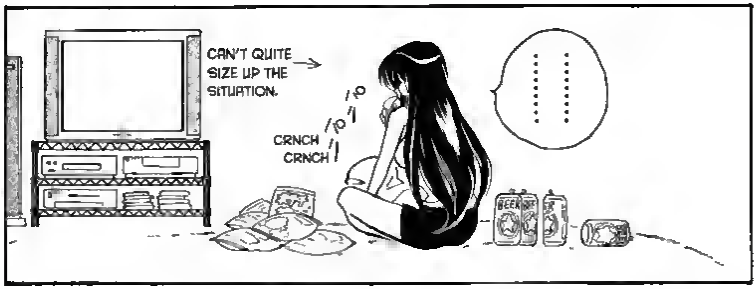
BACK THEN...
WASN'T THAT OSAKABE-SENSEI?
AH... OH!
OH, THAT?
THAT WAS...
...JUST MY (COUSIN) ITOKO.
YOUR ITOKO?
YEAH.
VERY SURPRISED
ER...
U-UM... YOU...
NO, YOU SEE? ITOKO IS MY (COUSIN) ITOKO.
AH! DON'T STOP WORKING.

THAT'S RIGHT. AH! SO IT DOES BOTHER YOU.
SHE'S MY (COUSIN) ITOKO, BUT SHE'S ALSO A TEACHER.
SO YOU LIVE HERE WITH SENSEI...?
UM...
SKRTCH SKRTCH
UNTIL I FINISH THIS, I WON'T CONSIDER MYSELF A REAL MAN. I WON'T BE ABLE TO MOVE FORWARD.
I'M REALLY SORRY, SISTER-SAN. BUT REALLY, MY WHOLE LIFE IS RIDING ON THIS MANGA.
I DIDN'T HAVE ANYONE ELSE I COULD ASK.
AH... NO... THAT WASN'T WHY I...
IF SHE'S A CONCERN FOR YOU, I CAN MAKE HER LEAVE.
IT'S JUST HER, AFTER ALL.
VSH
I'M BETTING EVERYTHING ON THIS PEN NIB HOLDER THAT I RECEIVED FROM THE (CAPTAIN) OLD MAN!!
AT THE CAFÉ...
SKRTCH SKRTCH
YOUR (FATHER) OLD MAN... ?

BEARD...
IS HE REALLY IN LOVE WITH THAT GIRL...?
HARIMA-KUN WOULDN'T DO ANY-THING.
OHH... I WONDER IF THINGS ARE GOING OKAY...? WITH HARIMA...
BUT IT'S HER FIRST TIME...
I HAVE TO BE WORRIED AS HER BIG SISTER...
KENJI
PLIT PLIT
THE ONLY CLEAN LINES ARE THE ONES THAT YAKUMO DRAWS.
OH? ♪
YOU'RE QUICK, SISTER-SAN! AND YOU'RE GOOD WITH YOUR HANDS, TOO!
I'VE FINISHED THIS PAGE.
UM...
WHAT?
HARIMA-SAN...
THERE'S SOMETHING THAT I JUST NOTICED...
HUH?


SKRTCH
SKRTCH
GLEEM
GLEEM
THIS PERSON...
DON'T YOU THINK SHE LOOKS LIKE NEE-SAN?

WHAT DID YOU...
WH--



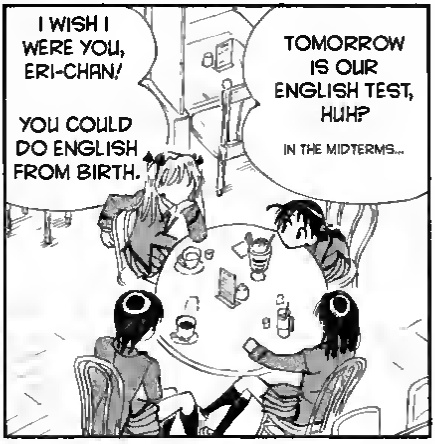
Say Something.

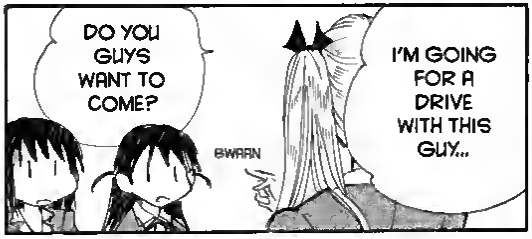
92 . . . . . Fin

#93 URI GELLER

UCC Cafe Mercado
AHH! I'M SO DEPRESSED!

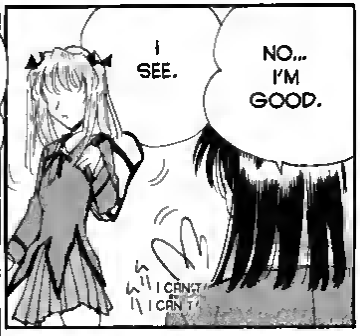
CHI-CHING
カラン
YO!
SO HERE YOU ARE!
I'M NOTHING TO ENVY!
HM?

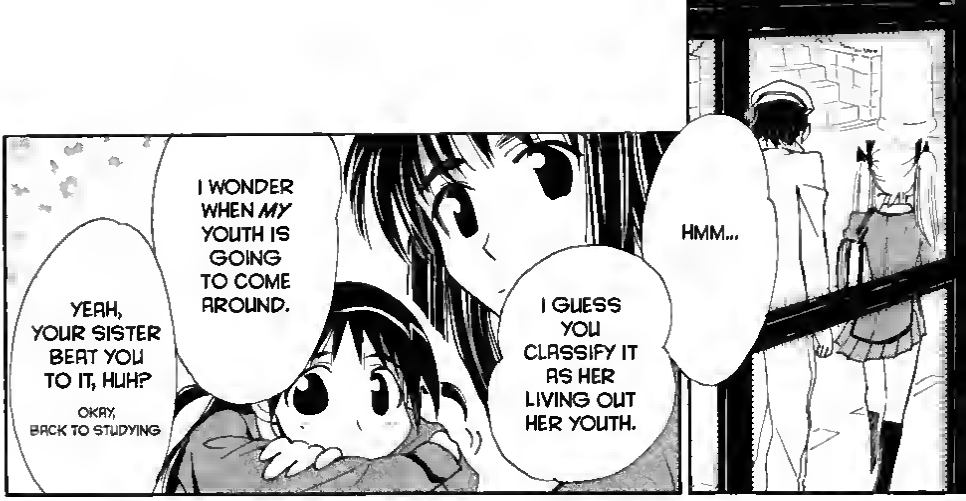

I WISH I WERE YOU, ERI-CHAN!
YOU COULD DO ENGLISH FROM BIRTH.
TOMORROW IS OUR ENGLISH TEST, HUH?
IN THE MIDTERMS...


DO YOU GUYS WANT TO COME?
I'M GOING FOR A DRIVE WITH THIS GUY...
BWRRN

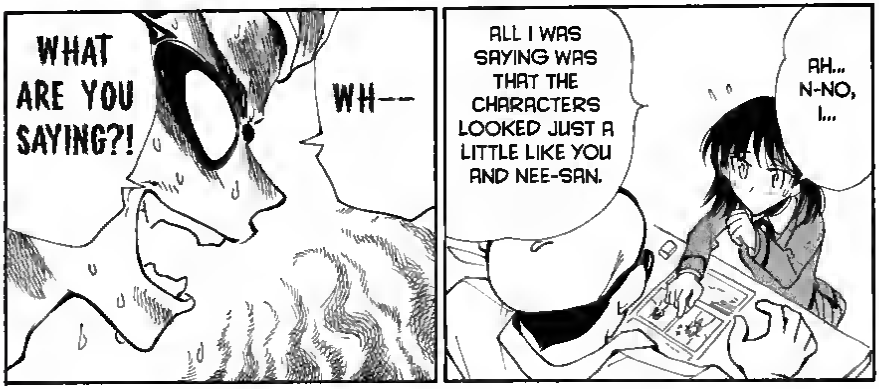
YUP! PRETTY AMAZING FOR A HIGH-SCHOOL STUDENT.
IT'S STARTED AGAIN.
THE GUYS NEVER LEARN, HUH?

OKAY. SORRY, BUT THIS IS MY EXIT.
カラン
CHI-CHING
GO


I SEE.
NO... I'M GOOD.
I CAN'T
I CAN'T


I WONDER WHEN *MY* YOUTH IS GOING TO COME AROUND.
YEAH, YOUR SISTER BEAT YOU TO IT, HUH?
OKAY, BACK TO STUDYING
I GUESS YOU CLASSIFY IT AS HER LIVING OUT HER YOUTH.
HMM...

JUST THEN AT HARIMA'S RESIDENCE...



NOW, SISTER-SAN...
LISTEN.
TWITCH TWITCH
GRATCH
?!
TWITCH
A MANGA DOESN'T BELONG TO THE AUTHOR ALONE!
MANGA ISN'T... MANGA ISN'T...
...ABOUT ANYTHING LIKE THAT!
I'VE SEEN AUTHOR AFTER AUTHOR GET WASHED OUT DUE TO THAT DELUSION!
IT CAN'T BE DRAWN SIMPLY FOR THE AUTHOR'S SELF-SATISFACTION!
I-I'M SORRY...
IT ISN'T ANYTHING YOU HAVE TO APOLOGIZE FOR...
HUMPH.
AND WITH THE DEADLINE LOOMING SO CLOSELY, HOW CAN YOU SAY SUCH THINGS...?
I DON'T SEE HOW YOU CAN THINK THAT THEY LOOK LIKE YOUR SISTER AND ME!
MMBL MMBL
MMBL MMBL

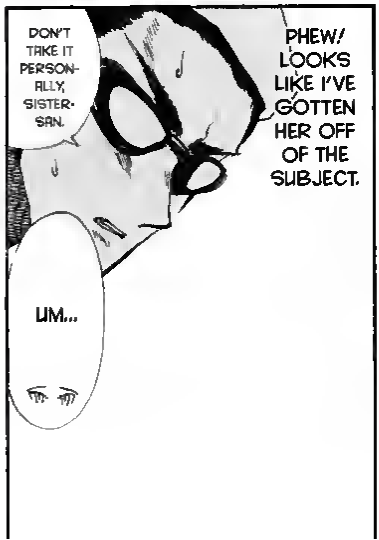
SO IT WORK'S OUT FOR THE TWO OF THEM...
I'M GLAD.
TWITCH
AH!
FLIP

IF IT KEEPS UP LIKE THIS, TENMA-CHAN WILL LEARN MY SECRET!
FLIP FLIP
WHY IS SHE SO GOOD AT GUESS-ING THESE THINGS?!

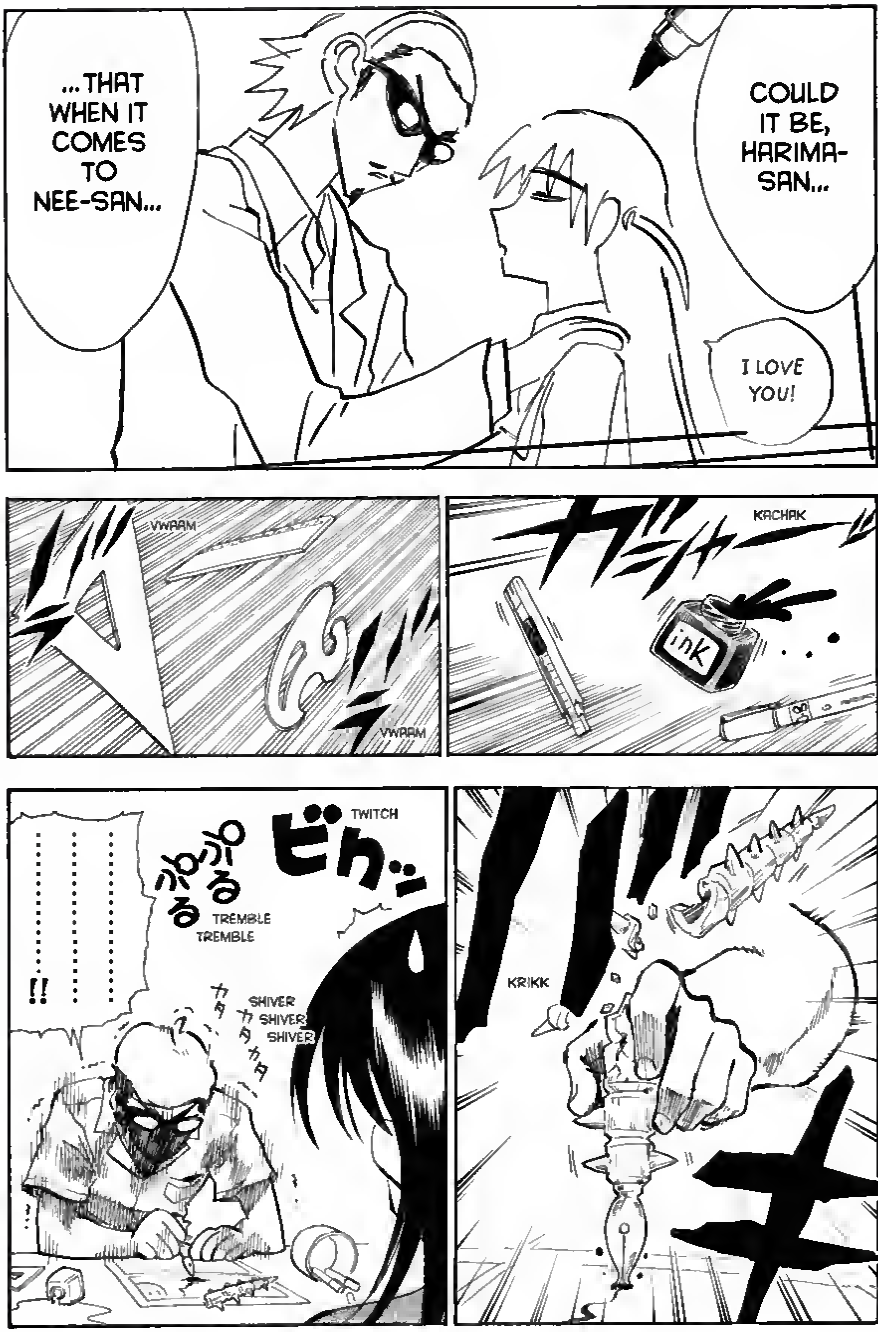
WH-WHY...?

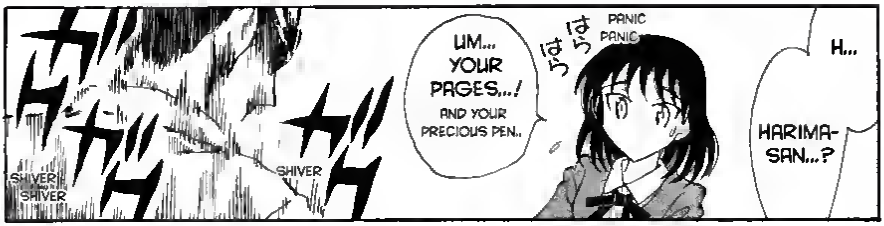
EH...
S-SORRY.
YOU FORGOT TO LAY DOWN TONE HERE! YOU NEED TO BE MORE CAREFUL!
NEVER UNDERESTIMATE THE READERS!

I HAVE TO FIGURE OUT A DIVERSION!!
SCREENTONE
VLUUP

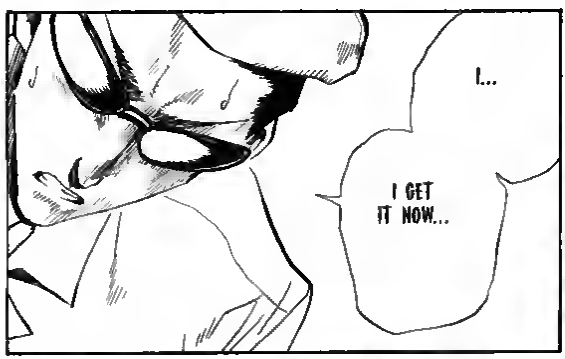

DON'T TAKE IT PERSON-ALLY, SISTER-SAN.
PHEW! LOOKS LIKE I'VE GOTTEN HER OFF OF THE SUBJECT.
UM...

SHF
SHF
SHF


...THAT WHEN IT COMES TO NEE-SAN...
COULD IT BE, HARIMA-SAN...
I LOVE YOU!
VWAAM
VWAAM
KACHAK
ink
TWITCH
ビカッ
TREMBLE TREMBLE
SHIVER SHIVER SHIVER
!!
KRIKK


SHIVER
SHIVER
SHIVER
UM... YOUR PAGES...! AND YOUR PRECIOUS PEN..
PANIC
PANIC
H...
HARIMA-SAN...?

BAMM
TWITCH
GYAA-AAHH!!!!

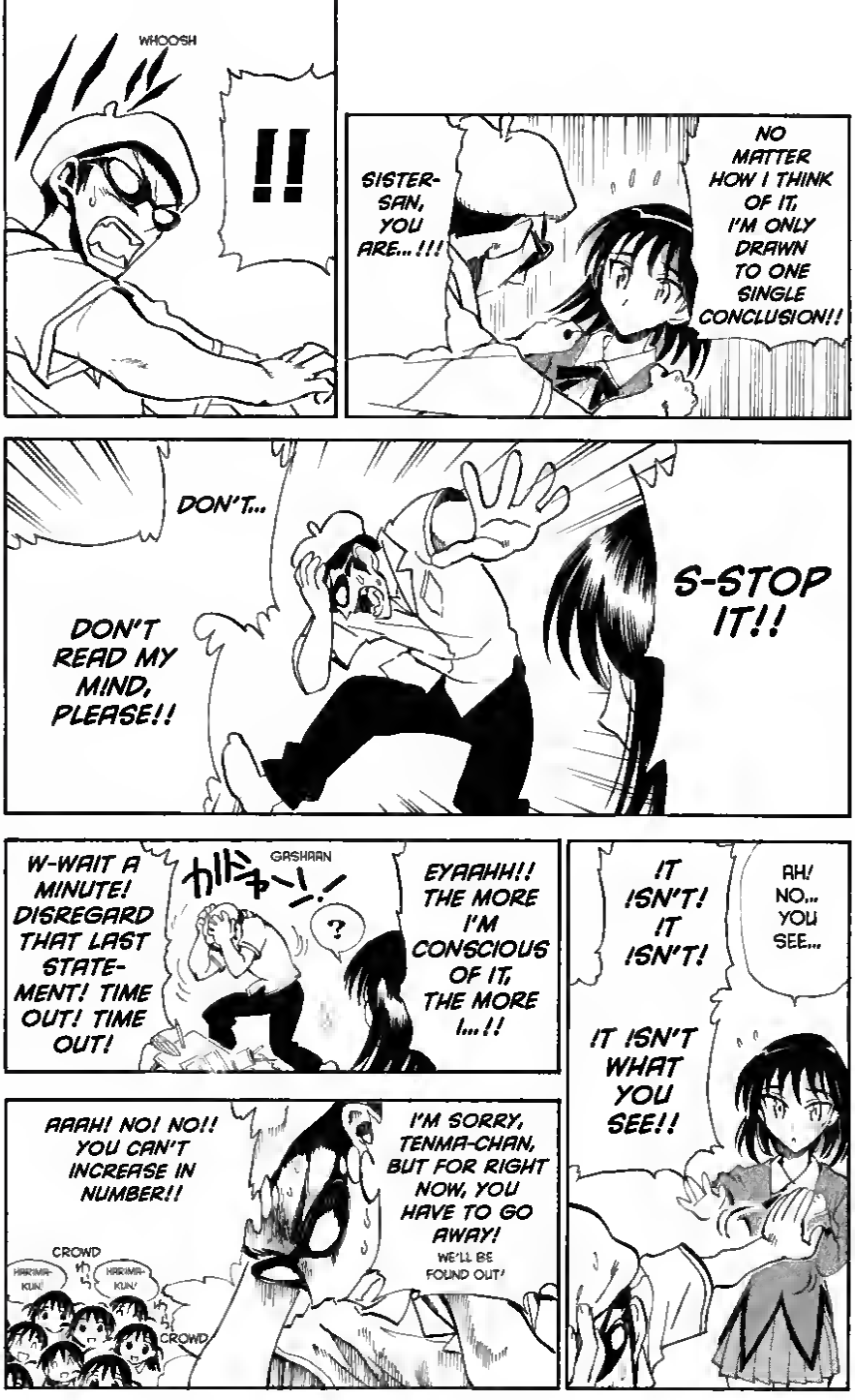

I...
I GET IT NOW...

HARIMA-SAN. UM . ARE YOU ALL RIGHT ?
BWARN

NO ONE SHOULD HAVE BEEN ABLE TO DECIPHER THAT TENMA-CHAN WAS THE MODEL FOR THIS CHARACTER!!
SCARED
YOUR GUESSES WERE TOO GOOD!
I THOUGHT IT WAS STRANGE FROM THE FIRST!

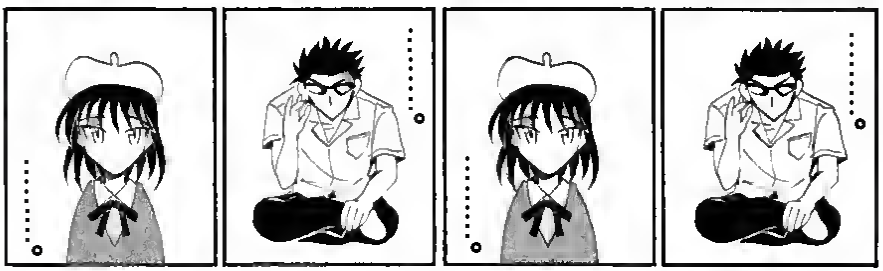
Somehow, He Goes Straight to the Heart of the Matter Also.

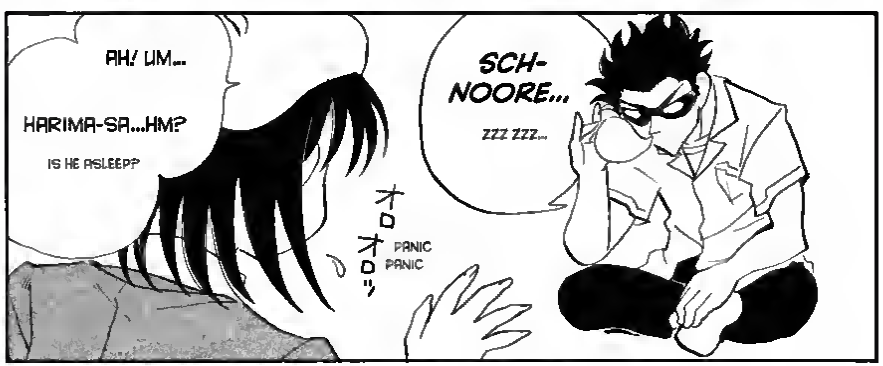
YOU'RE LYING!!
THAT... ISN'T TRUE...
TH- THAT...
EH...
I CAN'T SEE...
UM... THE THING IS...
I THOUGHT YOU WERE JUST GOOD AT GUESSING!!
BUT YOU'RE TOO GOOD!!
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE FOR ANYONE TO SEE THROUGH THE CAMOUFLAGE I PUT ON THOSE CHARACTERS!!
I'VE REMOVED ANY POSSIBLE SCENT OF TENMA-CHAN OR MYSELF FROM THE CHARACTER DESIGNS!!
YOU CAN'T MISLEAD ME, SISTER-SAN!!!
I CAN SEE THEM...
...BUT I CAN'T SEE THEM.
NOT YOURS, HARIMA-SAN

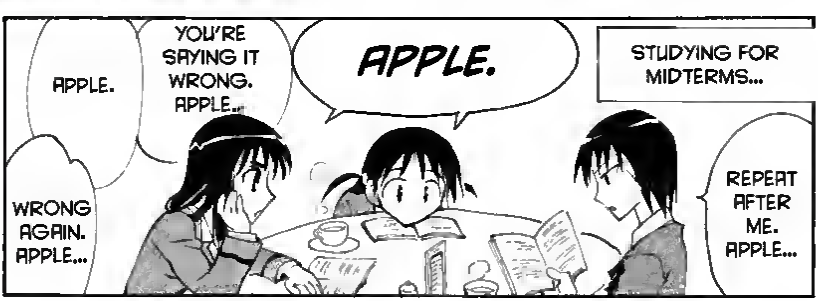

WHOOSH
!!
SISTER-SAN, YOU ARE...!!!
NO MATTER HOW I THINK OF IT, I'M ONLY DRAWN TO ONE SINGLE CONCLUSION!!
DON'T...
S-STOP IT!!
DON'T READ MY MIND, PLEASE!!
W-WAIT A MINUTE! DISREGARD THAT LAST STATE-MENT! TIME OUT! TIME OUT!
GASHAAN
?
EYAAHH!! THE MORE I'M CONSCIOUS OF IT, THE MORE I...!!
IT ISN'T! IT ISN'T!
IT ISN'T WHAT YOU SEE!!
AH! NO,... YOU SEE...
AAAH! NO! NO!! YOU CAN'T INCREASE IN NUMBER!!
I'M SORRY, TENMA-CHAN, BUT FOR RIGHT NOW, YOU HAVE TO GO AWAY!
WE'LL BE FOUND OUT!
CROWD
HRRMM-KUN!
HRRMM-KUN!
CROWD

HARIMA-SAN...
YOU'RE SO...
FUN YUUU
PLEASE, WHATEVER YOU DO, DON'T TELL YOUR SISTER.
PLEASE!
P-PLEASE FORGIVE ME.
EYAAAH!!
AH! UM... HARIMA-SAN...
SHE'S FEIGNING IGNORANCE AGAIN...
IF THAT'S HOW YOU WANT TO PLAY IT...
UM... IT'S ALL RIGHT. I REALLY CAN'T SEE YOUR THOUGHTS.
HERE... YOU CAN HAVE THIS...
SHUF

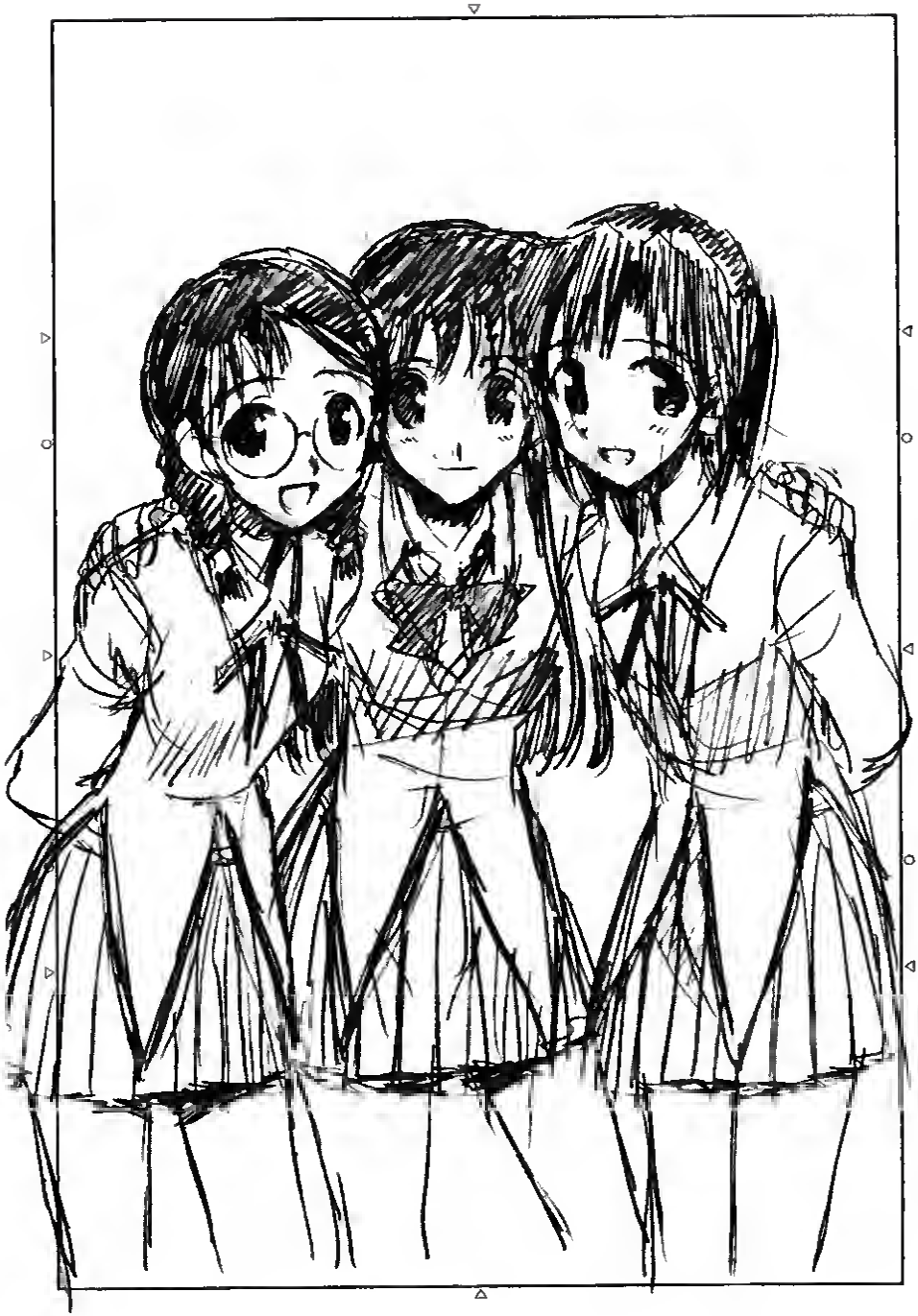
THEN I WILL FILL MY HEART WITH NOTHING-NESS!!
NOTHING-NESS!!

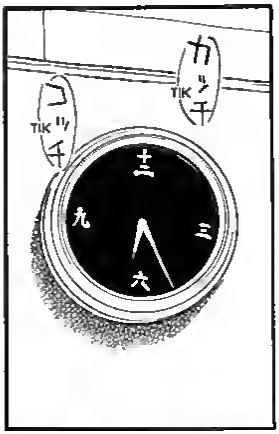



AH! UM...
HARIMA-SA...HM?
IS HE ASLEEP?
オロオロ
PANIC PANIC
SCH-NOORE...
ZZZ ZZZ...


APPLE.
YOU'RE SAYING IT WRONG. APPLE...
APPLE.
WRONG AGAIN. APPLE...
STUDYING FOR MIDTERMS...
REPEAT AFTER ME. APPLE...

93 . . . . . Fin





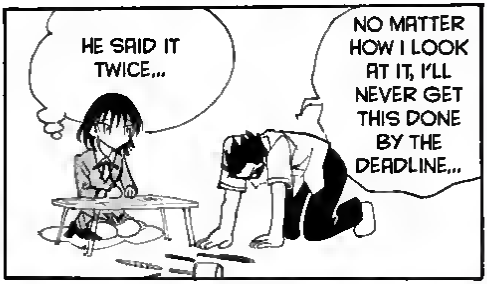
#94 THREE BEWILDERED PEOPLE IN THE NIGHT

TWITCH
ビク
HA!!
GRMPH
カリカリ
さ
SST
AH!!
OH! AHH! THIS IS INCRED-IBLE!!
THANKS, SISTER-SAN!!
UH... I'VE GOTTEN THIS FAR...
AH...
UM... SORRY.
WHY DIDN'T YOU WAKE ME UP?!
HOW LONG HAVE I BEEN SLEEPING?!
FLASH CARDS
FLIP
O-OKAY...
THEN...
ANYWAY, SISTER-SAN, YOU CAN RELAX FOR A BIT.
SLEEP IF YOU FEEL LIKE IT.

CHING
TIK
ONCE AGAIN AT THE TSUKAMOTO RESIDENCE...
UM... HARIMA-SAN... I REALLY SHOULD BE GOING...
MMM... MMM...
FLIP-IP-IP-IP-IP
ONE, TWO, THREE...
U-UM... I HAVE TO GO HOME...
HARIMA-SAN?
SHP
BAMM
TWITCH
NO!!!

NO MATTER HOW I LOOK AT IT, I'LL NEVER GET THIS DONE BY THE DEADLINE!!!
UM... I'M SOR...

UH...


HE SAID IT TWICE...
NO MATTER HOW I LOOK AT IT, I'LL NEVER GET THIS DONE BY THE DEADLINE...

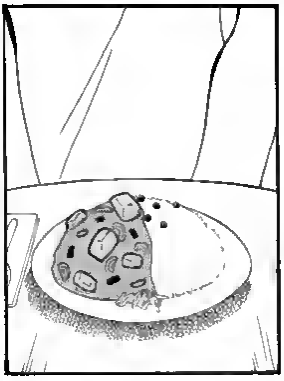
.....
AND IF YOU'RE UNCOMFORT-ABLE, FEEL FREE TO REFUSE...
SISTER-SAN, I SHOULD NEVER MAKE A REQUEST LIKE THIS...

IT CAN'T... LET'S DO OUR BEST... RIGHT TO THE VERY END!

DAMMIT... IS THIS HOW MY "LOVE" COMES TO AN END...?

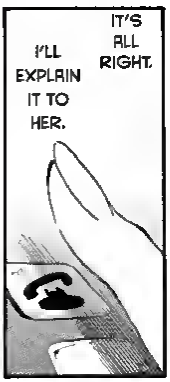
PLEASE STAY WITH ME ALL THROUGH THE NIGHT!!
SLUMP
...MO...
CHING
...KU...
YA...
SHP
EH...
PLEASE... PLEASE MAKE ME INTO A MAN!!
ALL RIGHT

TH-THANK YOU, SISTER-SAN!!
I MEAN, SISTER-SAMA!!
U-UM...?
GRIMP
ガシッ!
SO...
YOU UNDER-STAND THE SITUATION?
GLANCE
ちらっ
KACHAK
カチャ
NOD NOD
コクコク



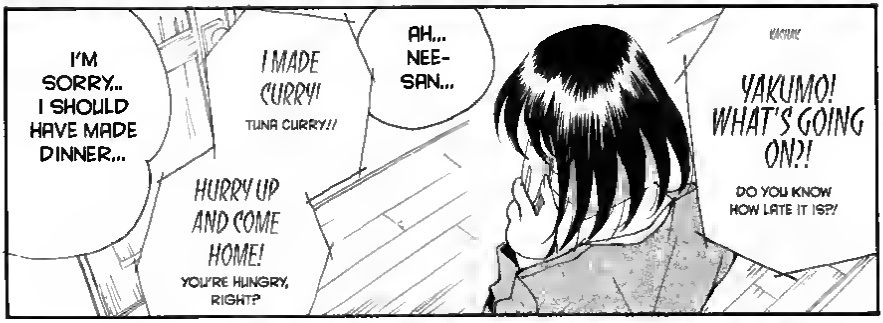
GLANCE

I'M GOING TO HAVE TO TELL NEE-CHAN...
PEEP PEEP


I'LL EXPLAIN IT TO HER.
IT'S ALL RIGHT.

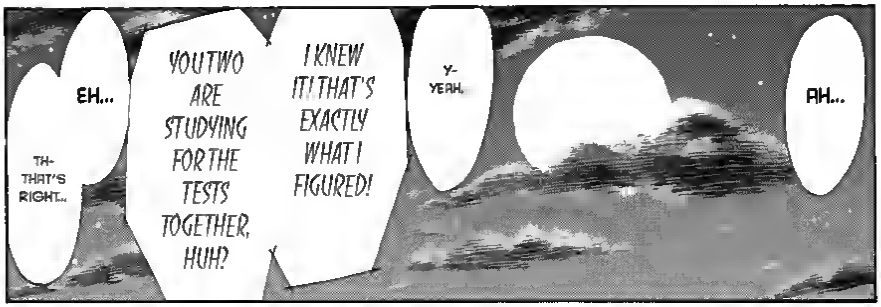
I'M SORRY, SISTER-SAN!
I'M SORRY! I'M SORRY!

RRR


I'M SORRY... I SHOULD HAVE MADE DINNER...
I MADE CURRY!
TUNA CURRY!!
HURRY UP AND COME HOME!
YOU'RE HUNGRY, RIGHT?
AH... NEE-SAN...
YAKUMO! WHAT'S GOING ON?!
DO YOU KNOW HOW LATE IT IS?!

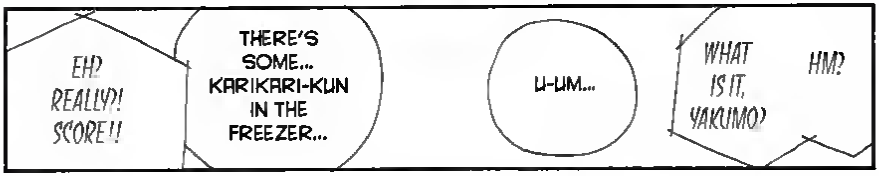
A--
ACTUALLY... TODAY... UM... I'M GOING TO BE STAYING OVER...
AH...
WELL, ABOUT THAT... UM...
WHAT TIME CAN I EXPECT YOU HOME?

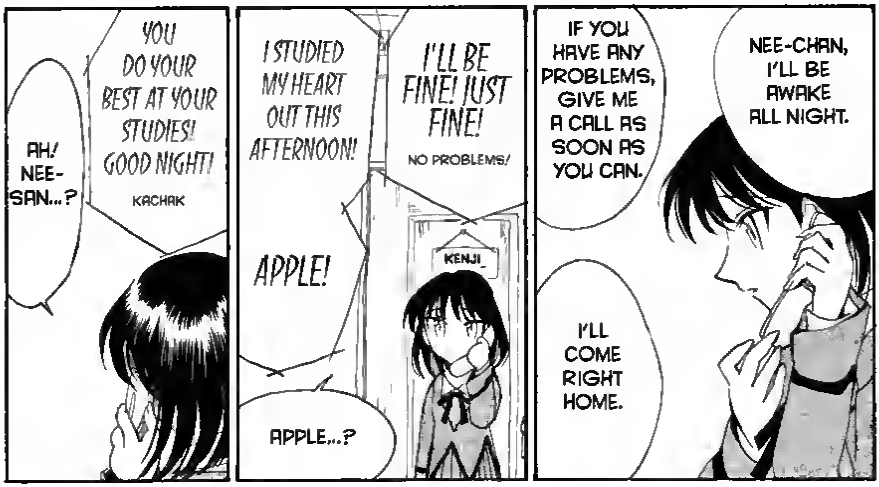
EH...?
YOU MEAN AT SARAH'S HOUSE?
EH? STAYING OVER?

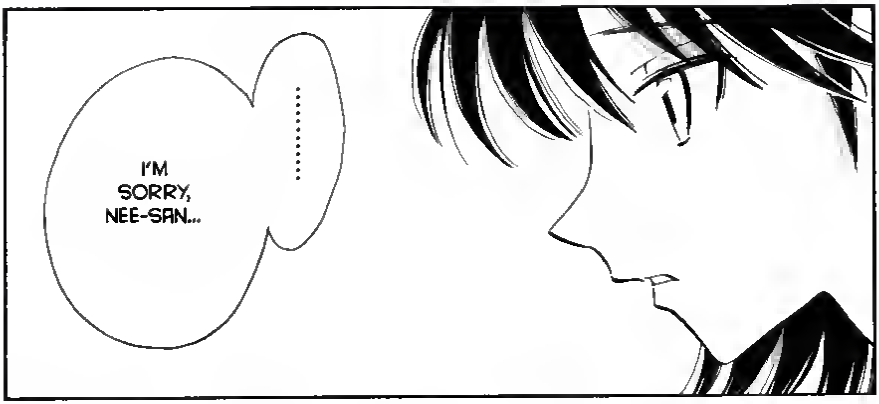

EH...
TH-THAT'S RIGHT...
YOU TWO ARE STUDYING FOR THE TESTS TOGETHER, HUH?
I KNEW IT! THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT I FIGURED!
Y-YEAH.
AH...

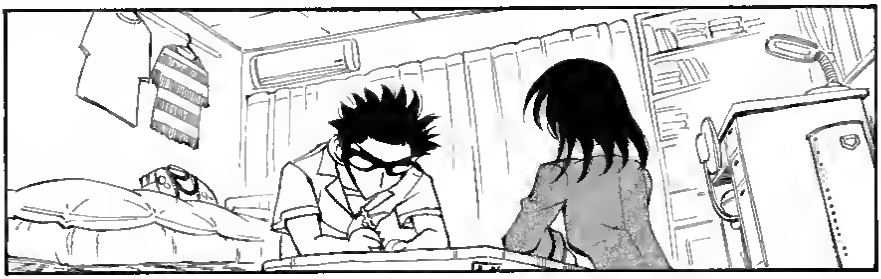
UM...
NEE-SAN...!
WELL, IF IT'S FOR YOUR EXAMS, THEN I GUESS YOU CAN'T AVOID IT, HUH?

KENJI
IT ALWAYS GOES BETTER WITH TWO PEOPLE, HUH?
I WAS STUDYING WITH AKIRA-CHAN TODAY

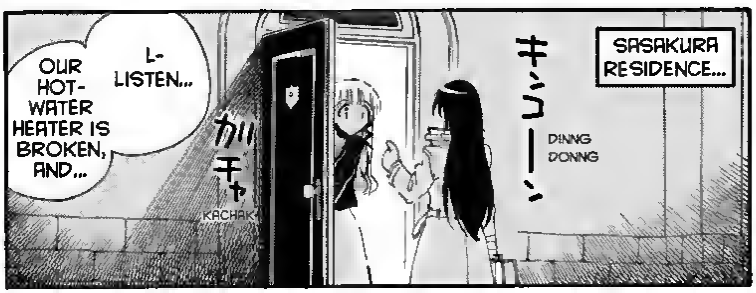

EH? REALLY?! SCORE!!
THERE'S SOME... KARIKARI-KUN IN THE FREEZER...
U-UM...
WHAT IS IT, YAKUMO?
HM?


AH! NEE-SAN...?
YOU DO YOUR BEST AT YOUR STUDIES! GOOD NIGHT!
KACHAK
I STUDIED MY HEART OUT THIS AFTERNOON!
APPLE!
APPLE...?
I'LL BE FINE! JUST FINE!
NO PROBLEMS!
KENJI
IF YOU HAVE ANY PROBLEMS, GIVE ME A CALL AS SOON AS YOU CAN.
I'LL COME RIGHT HOME.
NEE-CHAN, I'LL BE AWAKE ALL NIGHT.


I'M SORRY, NEE-SAN...
.....

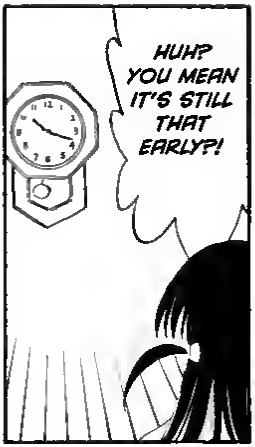


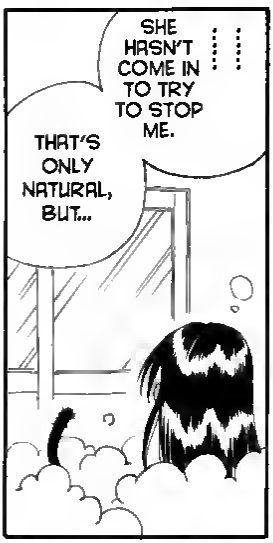
YES, SIR...
AH...
SORRY, BUT COULD YOU DO A BETA-FLASH HERE?
I'M REALLY SORRY ABOUT THIS
THANKS, SISTER-SAN.

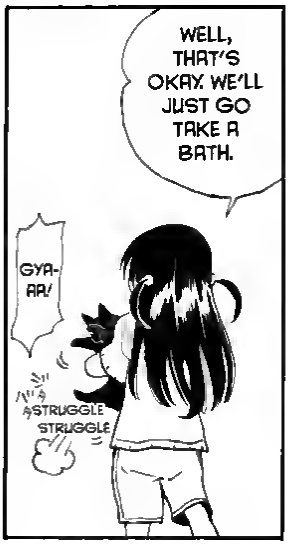

L-LISTEN...
OUR HOT-WATER HEATER IS BROKEN, AND...
カリ
カチャ
KACHAK
キンコーン
DINNG DONNG
SASAKURA RESIDENCE...

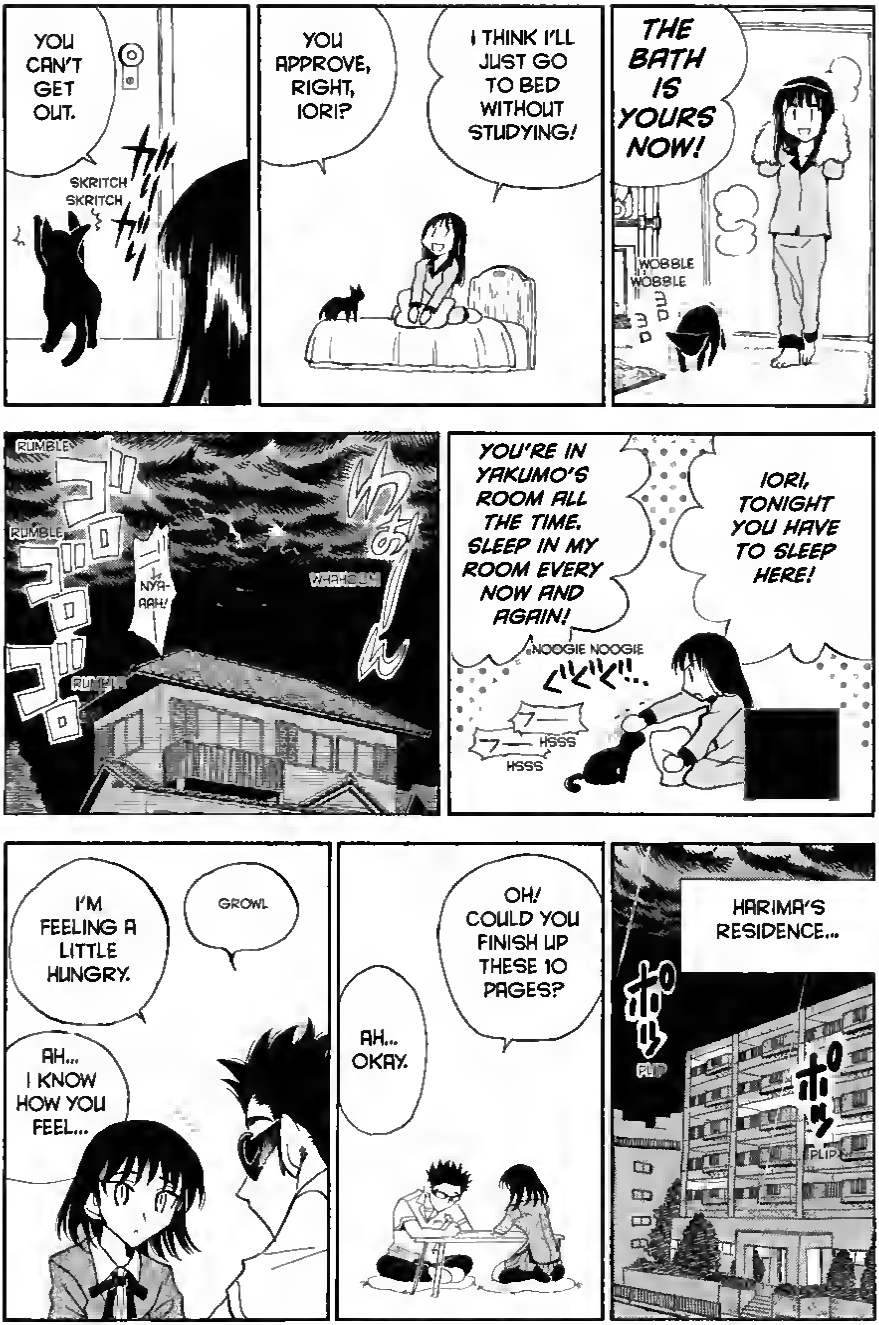
94 . . . . . Fin

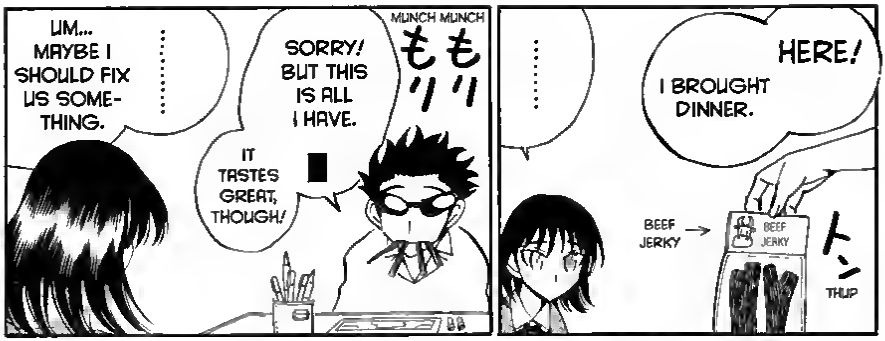
#95 LE SORELLE





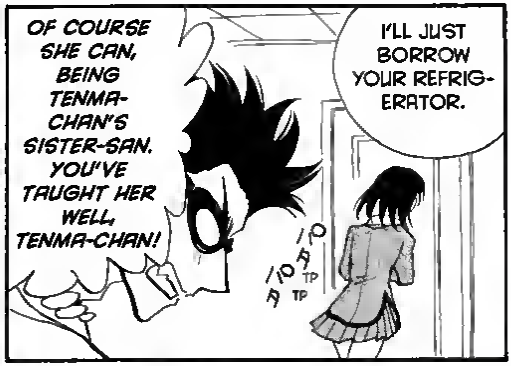



YOU CAN'T GET OUT.
SKRITCH SKRITCH
YOU APPROVE, RIGHT, IORI?
I THINK I'LL JUST GO TO BED WITHOUT STUDYING!
THE BATH IS YOURS NOW!
WOBBLE WOBBLE
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
NYA-AAH!
WHOOSH
YOU'RE IN YAKUMO'S ROOM ALL THE TIME. SLEEP IN MY ROOM EVERY NOW AND AGAIN!
IORI, TONIGHT YOU HAVE TO SLEEP HERE!
NOOGIE NOOGIE
HSSS
HSSS
I'M FEELING A LITTLE HUNGRY.
GROWL
AH... I KNOW HOW YOU FEEL...
OH! COULD YOU FINISH UP THESE 10 PAGES?
AH... OKAY.
HARIMA'S RESIDENCE...
PUP
PUP


UM... MAYBE I SHOULD FIX US SOME-THING.
SORRY! BUT THIS IS ALL I HAVE.
MUNCH MUNCH
もぐもぐ
IT TASTES GREAT, THOUGH!
HERE!
I BROUGHT DINNER.
BEEF JERKY
BEEF JERKY
トン
THUP

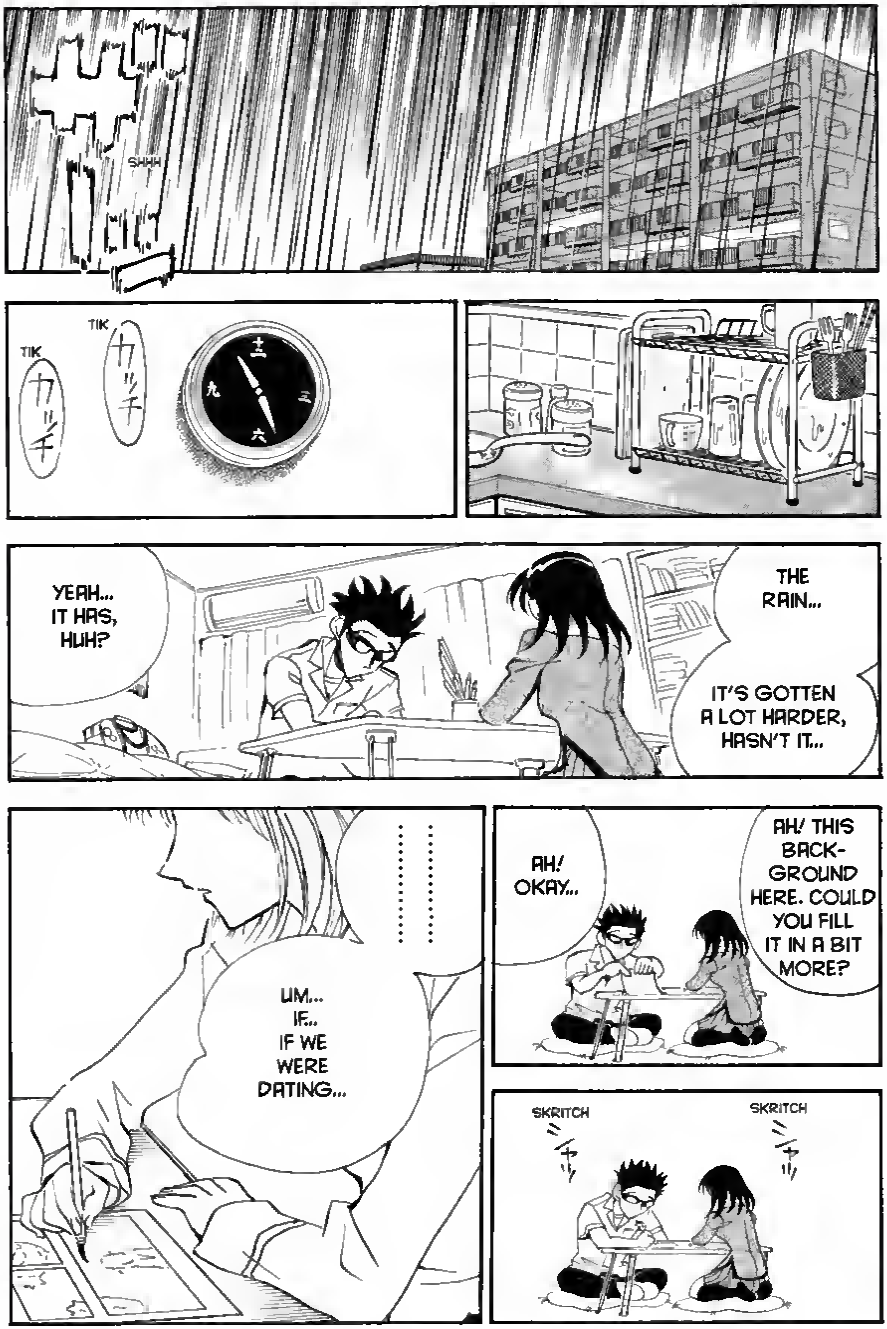
UH... MAYBE SOMETHING A LITTLE MORE NUTRITIOUS...
I DON'T HAVE ANY CUP RAMEN, YOU KNOW!
EH?! YOU CAN COOK?!

SHHH
SHHH


OF COURSE SHE CAN, BEING TENMA-CHAN'S SISTER-SAN. YOU'VE TAUGHT HER WELL, TENMA-CHAN!
I'LL JUST BORROW YOUR REFRIG-ERATOR.
TP TP

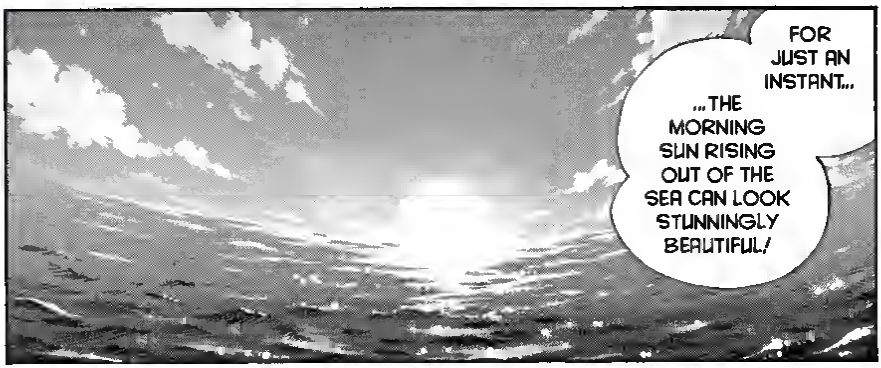
AH... I THINK I CAN MANAGE WITH THIS...
BUT EVEN SO, I DON'T THINK WE HAVE ANY-THING BUT SNACKS.
DON'T PUT YOUR-SELF OUT.

THAT'S AMAZ-ING!!
EDAMAME AND SAUSAGE PASTA.
ANY GUY YOU DATE WILL BE A HAPPY MAN!
YOU THINK SO..?
I'VE NEVER HAD PASTA THIS GOOD BEFORE!
THIS IS REALLY GREAT!!
SKRAPE SKRAPE
IS IT OKAY IF I ASK YOU A QUESTION...?
Y-YEAH!
HM?
KACHINK
UM... HARIMA-SAN...
YOU MENTIONED THE WORD DATE...
WHAT EXACTLY DOES THAT MEAN?


SHHH
TIK
カッチ
TIK
カッチ
YEAH... IT HAS, HUH?
THE RAIN...
IT'S GOTTEN A LOT HARDER, HASN'T IT...
UM... IF... IF WE WERE DATING...
AH! OKAY...
AH! THIS BACK-GROUND HERE. COULD YOU FILL IT IN A BIT MORE?
SKRITCH
SKRITCH

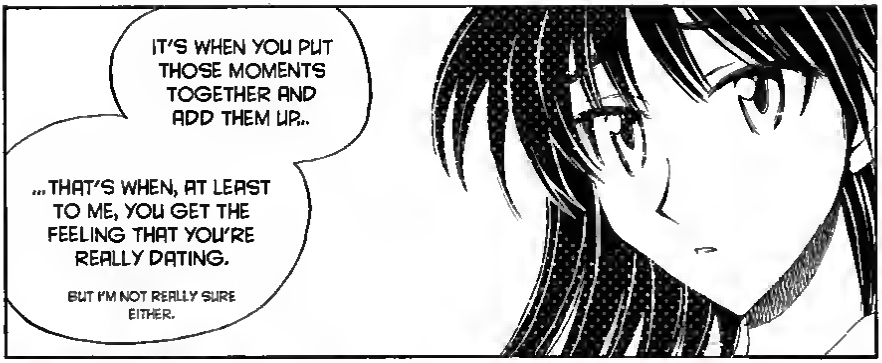
I'M NOT VERY GOOD WITH MEN... BUT...
...I HAVE TO TRY...
YOU SEE... I DON'T HAVE ANY EXPERIENCE WITH IT...
SO I DON'T KNOW...WHAT TO DO AT TIMES LIKE THAT...
SKRITCH SKRITCH
.....
WHEN A GUY AND A GIRL GO ON A DATE...
SHHH
WHAT IS SUPPOSED TO HAPPEN...?
I-- .....
I'M SORRY! I SHOULDN'T EVEN BE ASKING...
SKRITCH SKRITCH
.....
LISTEN...
AH!
Y-YES...?
.....

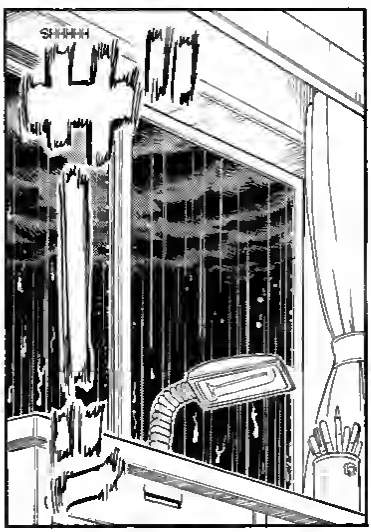
I DON'T KNOW ALL THAT MUCH MYSELF, BUT...
FOR EXAM-PLE...
IF THEY WENT FOR A MOTORCYCLE RIDE ALONG A COAST ROAD IN THE MORNING...
.....?
SHF SHF

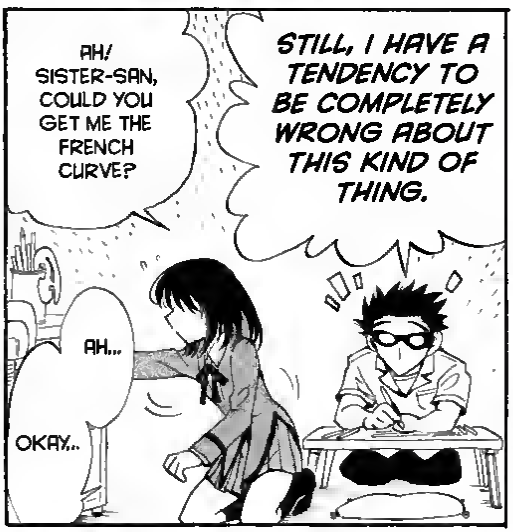

FOR JUST AN INSTANT...
...THE MORNING SUN RISING OUT OF THE SEA CAN LOOK STUNNINGLY BEAUTIFUL!

OR IF THEY ATE SOME REALLY GOOD FOOD TOGETHER...
OR IF THEY SAW A MOVIE THEY BOTH JUST LOVED!
.....

WHEN THERE ARE TWO PEOPLE WHO FEEL THE SAME WAY...
THOSE ARE THE MOMENTS THAT I'D LIKE TO SHARE!

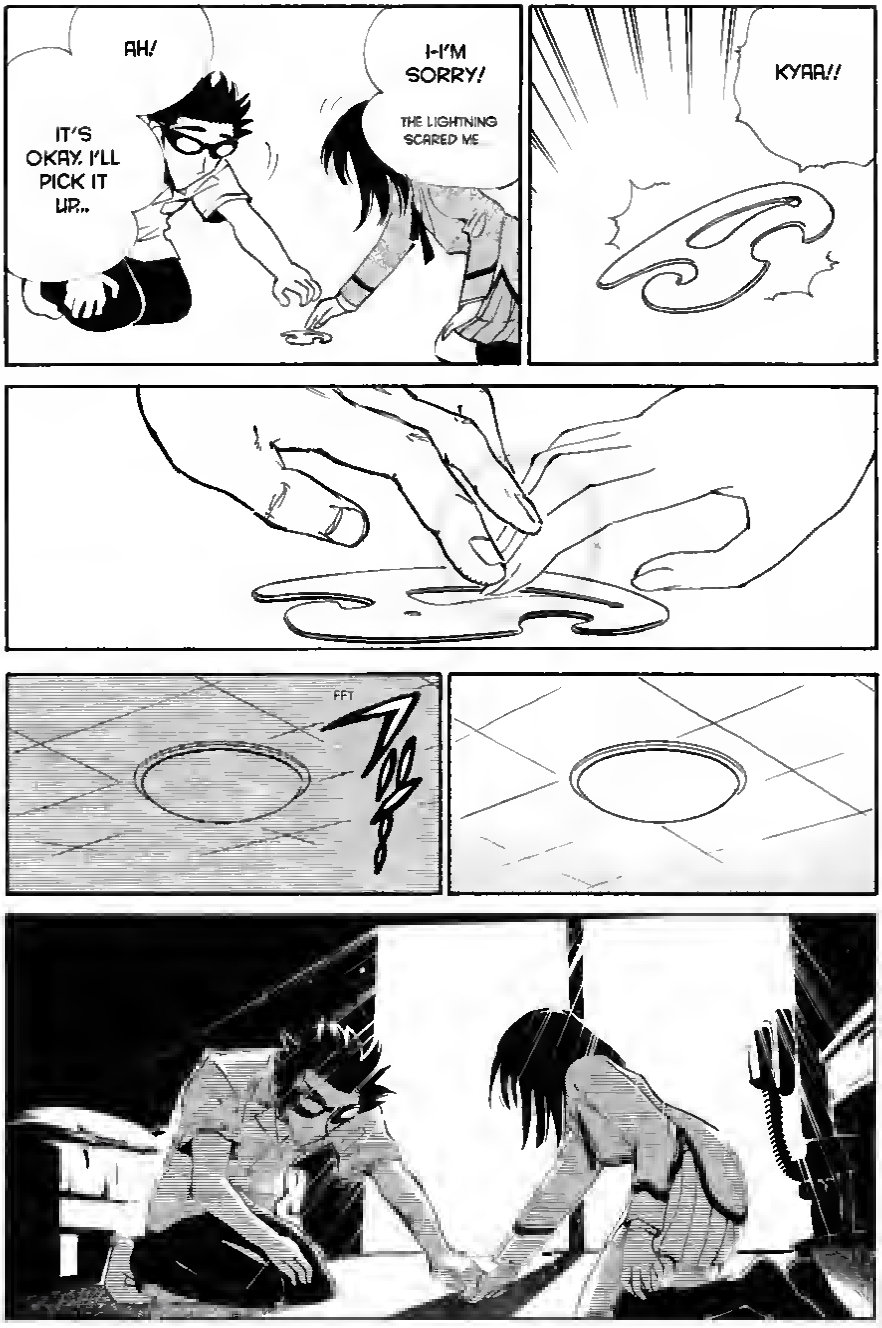

IT'S WHEN YOU PUT THOSE MOMENTS TOGETHER AND ADD THEM UP...
...THAT'S WHEN, AT LEAST TO ME, YOU GET THE FEELING THAT YOU'RE REALLY DATING.
BUT I'M NOT REALLY SURE EITHER.


SHHHH


STILL, I HAVE A TENDENCY TO BE COMPLETELY WRONG ABOUT THIS KIND OF THING.
AH/ SISTER-SAN, COULD YOU GET ME THE FRENCH CURVE?
AH...
OKAY...

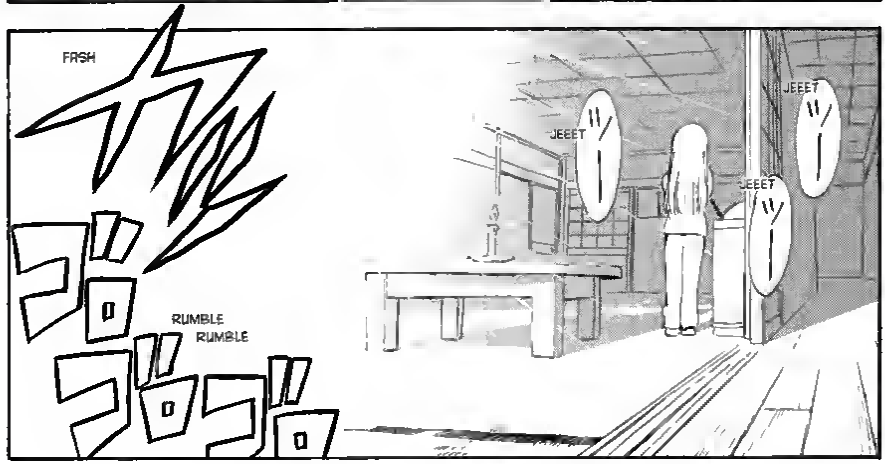
FLASH
KAGANN

HERE...
THANKS.


AH!
IT'S OKAY. I'LL PICK IT UP...
I-I'M SORRY!
THE LIGHTNING SCARED ME
KYAA!!
FFT

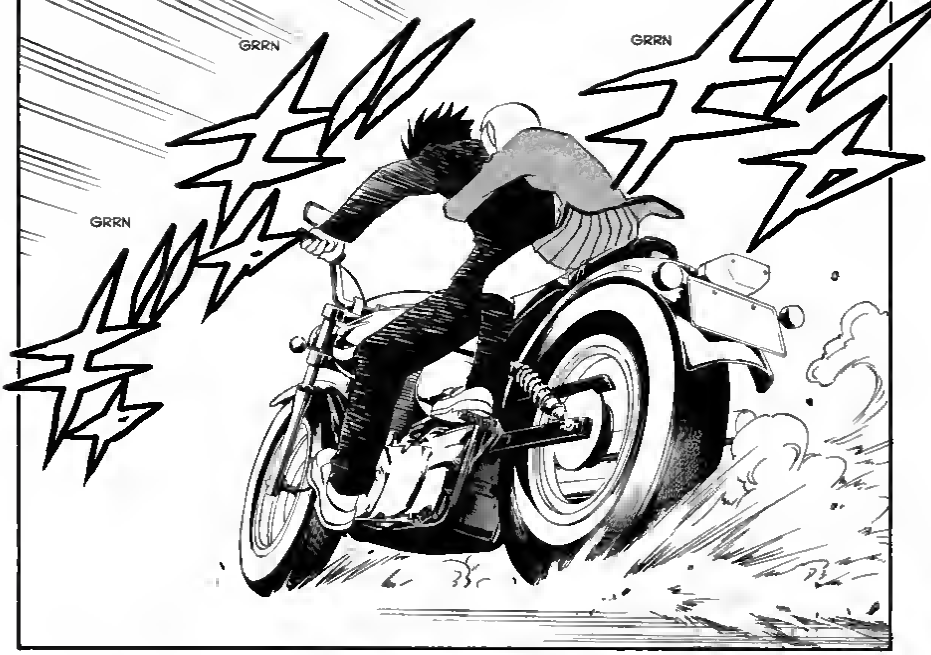
A BLACK-OUT, HUH?
I'M GLAD I'VE GOT THESE CANDLES.
BUT THIS IS A NEW DISCOV-ERY!
IT'S A LITTLE MORE FUN STUDYING THIS WAY!
APPLE!
RIGHT, IORI?
YAKUMO IS AT SARAH-CHAN'S HOUSE GIVING IT HER BEST!
AND AS THE BIG SISTER, I HAVE TO GIVE IT MY BEST, TOO!
RINNNG
HUH?
SO THE PHONES WORK EVEN IN A BLACK-OUT...?
HII! TSUKAMOTO SPEAKING!
HUH? SARAH-CHAN! WHAT'S UP?
SORRY TO CALL SO LATE. COULD I SPEAK TO YAKUMO?
THERE'S A QUESTION I'D LIKE TO ASK HER ABOUT THE TEST...

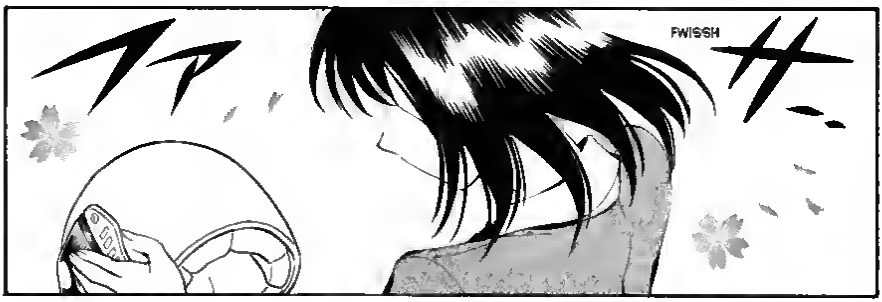
I'M REALLY SORRY TO HAVE CALLED YOU SO LATE.
SO IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME...
OH, REALLY?
THEN I'LL JUST TRY HER CELL PHONE.
...OUT...
...AT THE MO-MENT...
.....
EH?
HUH?
Y-YAKUMO IS...

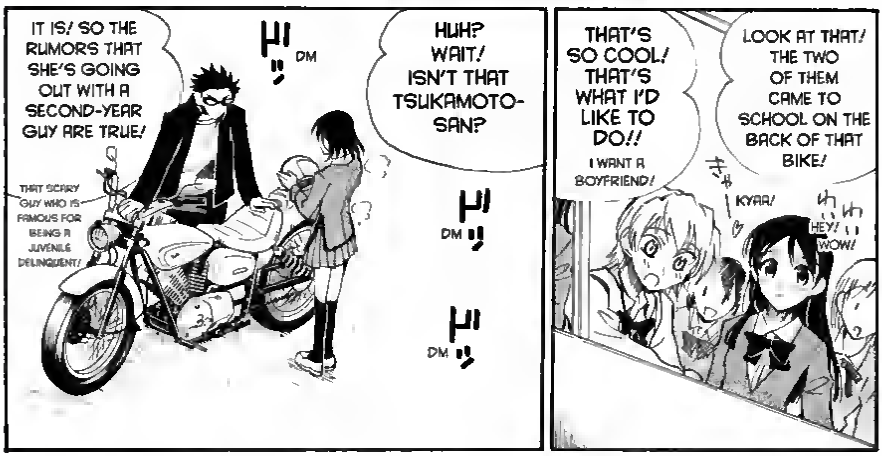

FASH
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
JEEET
JEEET
JEEET

95.....Fin

HEIGHT: ABOUT
190 CM (6' 3")
HOUSE BUTLER NAKAMURA






IT IS! SO THE RUMORS THAT SHE'S GOING OUT WITH A SECOND-YEAR GUY ARE TRUE!
THAT SCARY GUY WHO IS FAMOUS FOR BEING A JUVENILE DELINQUENT!
HUH? WAIT! ISN'T THAT TSUKAMOTO-SAN?
DM
DM
DM
THAT'S SO COOL! THAT'S WHAT I'D LIKE TO DO!!
I WANT A BOYFRIEND!
LOOK AT THAT! THE TWO OF THEM CAME TO SCHOOL ON THE BACK OF THAT BIKE!
KYAA!
HEY!
WOW!

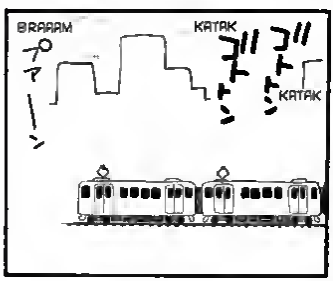
#96 CAN'T STOP THE MUSIC

IT LOOKS LIKE WE MADE IT ON TIME!!
GIVE YOUR EXAMS YOUR BEST SHOT!!
DINNG DONNG キーン コーン
WHEN THE SECOND DAY OF THE MID-TERM EXAMS ENDS...
TMP
RIGHT! BACK TO FINISHING OUR PAGES!
GRRN GRRN GRRN
AFTER THE THIRD DAY OF MIDTERMS ENDS...
カリカリカリカリ
SKRITCH SKRITCH
SKRITCH SKRITCH
GLANCE
カリカリカリカリカリカリカリカリカリカリカリカリカリカリ!!
SKRITCH SKRITCH
SKRITCH SKRITCH
SKRITCH SKRITCH
SKRITCH SKRITCH
SKRITCH SKRITCH
SKRITCH SKRITCH
SKRITCH SKRITCH //
VWAAN
PLIP
PLIP
PLIP

THE PRECIOUS MANUSCRIPT...
ALL RIGHT!! IT'S DONE!!

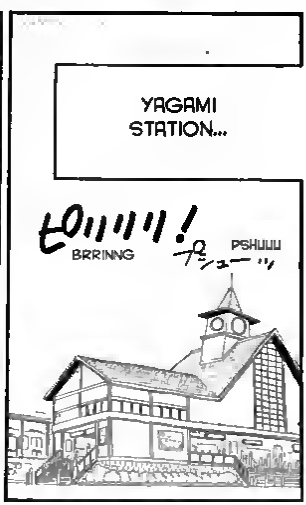
WHOOSH
I'LL BE BACK!!

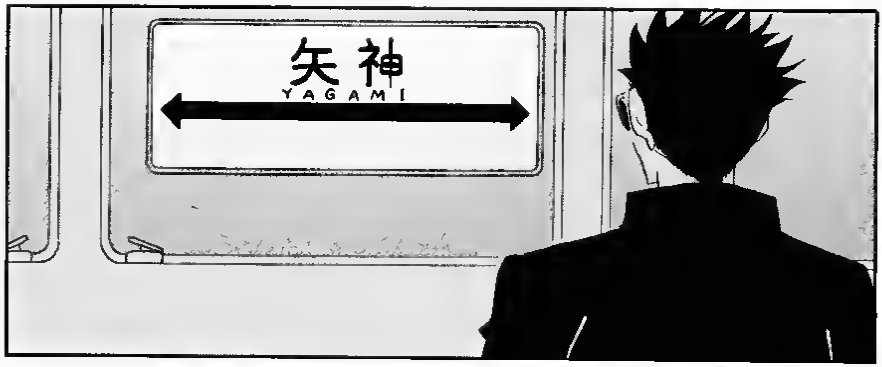
THANK YOU! I WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN ABLE TO DO IT IF YOU HADN'T HELPED.
THERE'S EVEN A LITTLE TIME BEFORE THE DEADLINE.
ALL THAT'S LEFT IS TO DELIVER IT TO THE PUBLISHER, RIGHT?
CONGRATULATIONS.

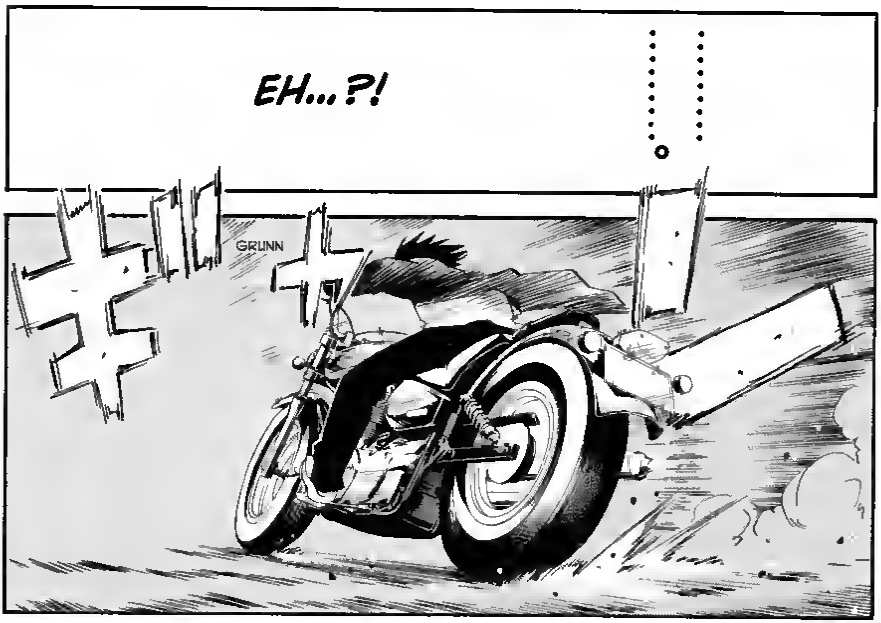

BRAARM
KATAK
KATAK

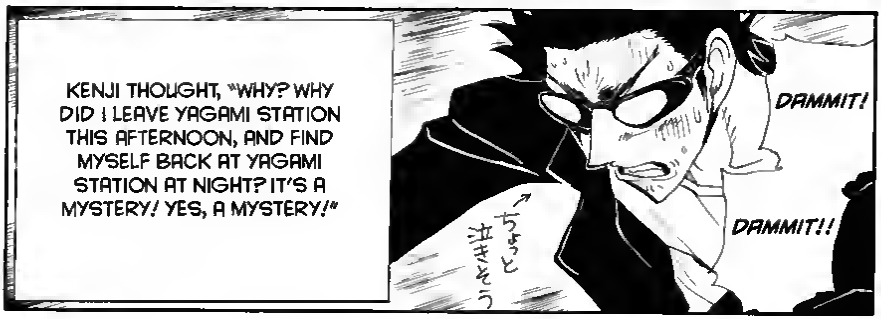
ZZZ

KATAK
KATAK

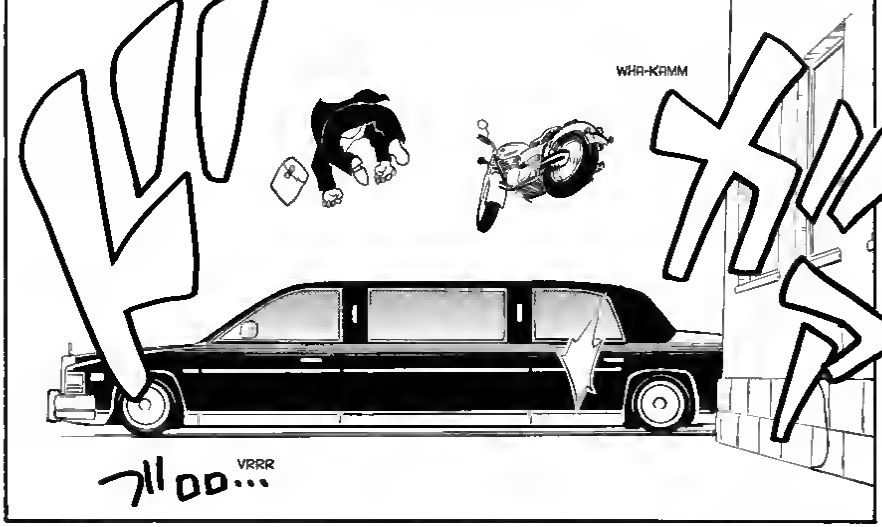

YAGAMI STATION...
BRRINNG
PSHUUU

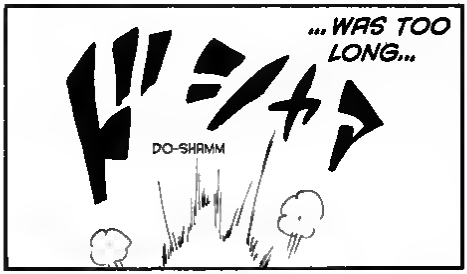

矢神
YAGAMI

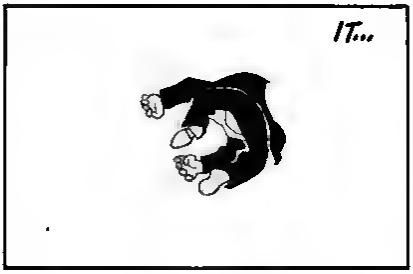

EH...?!
GRUNN

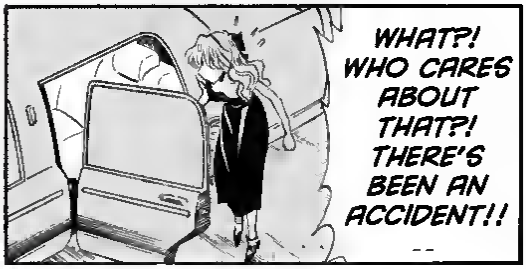

KENJI THOUGHT, "WHY? WHY DID I LEAVE YAGAMI STATION THIS AFTERNOON, AND FIND MYSELF BACK AT YAGAMI STATION AT NIGHT? IT'S A MYSTERY! YES, A MYSTERY!"
DAMMIT!
DAMMIT!!

NAKAMURA, I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF THIS SONG.
VRRRM
IS THAT SO...?
I'M NOT IN THE MOOD. NOT TONIGHT...
YES, MISS... HOWEVER, DID YOU NOT SAY THAT THIS WAS ONE OF YOUR FAVORITE TUNES...?
VRRR
HUH?!
VRRR
NOW!!!
BUT I DON'T HAVE TIME TO STOP!!
I JUST HAVE TO TIME IT RIGHT AS IT PASSES!
DAM-MIT!!
THAT CAR IS IN MY WAY!!


WHA-KAMM
VRRR


...WAS TOO LONG...
DO-SHAMM


IT...

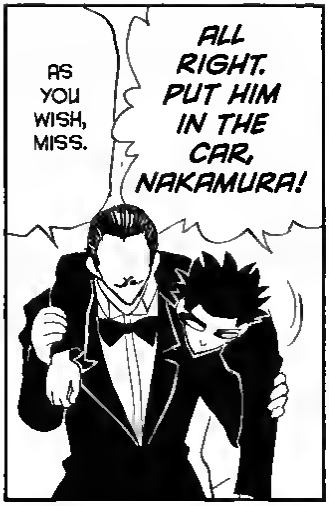

WHAT?! WHO CARES ABOUT THAT?! THERE'S BEEN AN ACCIDENT!!

....? NAKAMURA, DID SOMETHING HIT US?
I HEARD A SOUND
YES, MISS. A MOTORCYCLE RAMMED INTO US AT TOP SPEED.
BUT YOU NEEDN'T FEAR THE ARMOR ON THIS CAR-

A-ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?!

Nakamura: The Sawachika Family Butler.

GWIMM

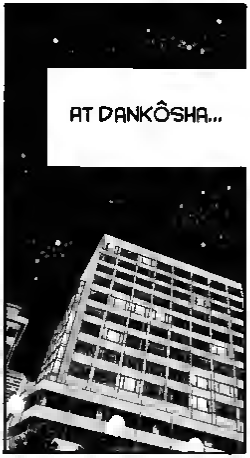

AS YOU WISH, MISS.
ALL RIGHT. PUT HIM IN THE CAR, NAKAMURA!

.....

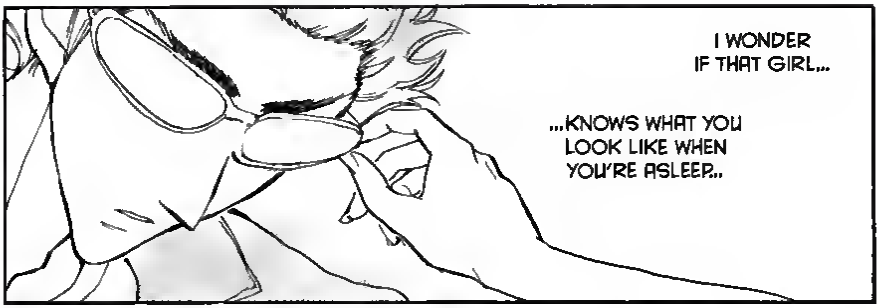
VROOM
AND IF YOU TELL ANYONE, I'LL BITE MY TONGUE OFF AND BLEED TO DEATH ON YOU!!

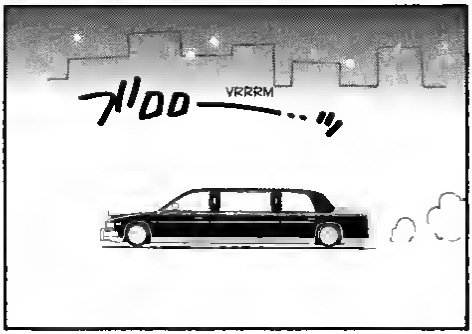
THEY CALL ME NAKAMURA THE BUTLER.

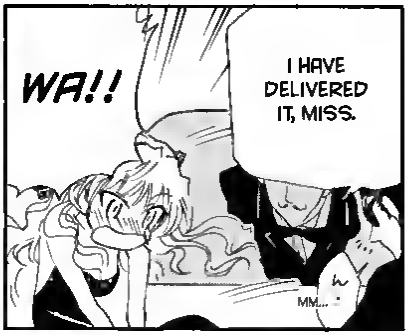
CHATTER CHATTER
AH, COULD I HAVE YOUR NAME?
AN ENTRY FOR THE NEW TALENT AWARD, RIGHT? CONSIDER IT DELIVERED.
MURMUR
MURMUR

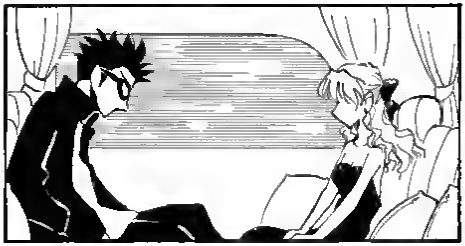

AT DANKÔSHA...

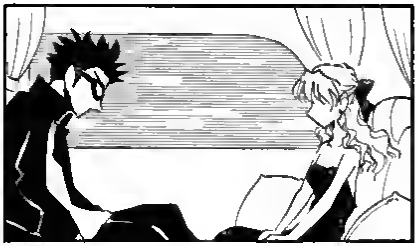
DANKÔSHA
IS HE SLEEPING...?
THERE'S BLOOD...

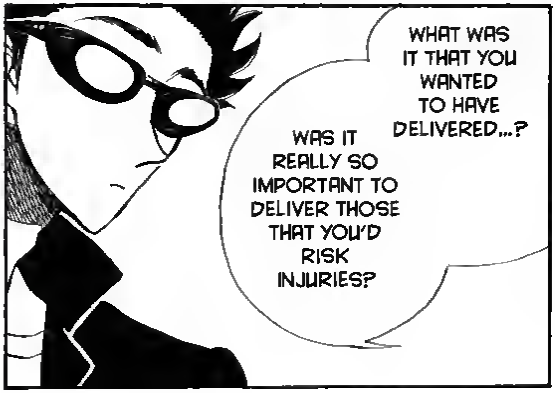

I WONDER IF THAT GIRL...
...KNOWS WHAT YOU LOOK LIKE WHEN YOU'RE ASLEEP...


VRRRM


WA!!
I HAVE DELIVERED IT, MISS.
MM...

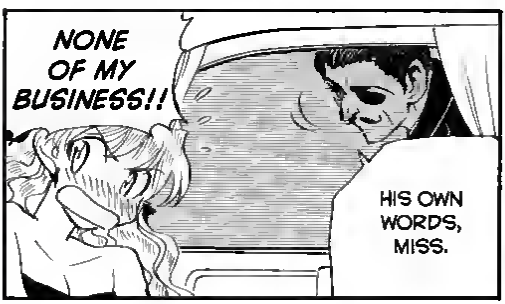


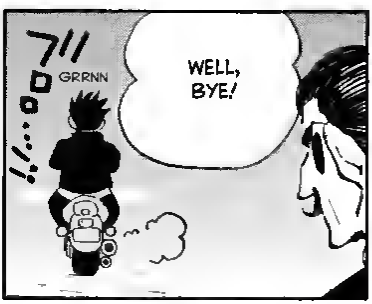


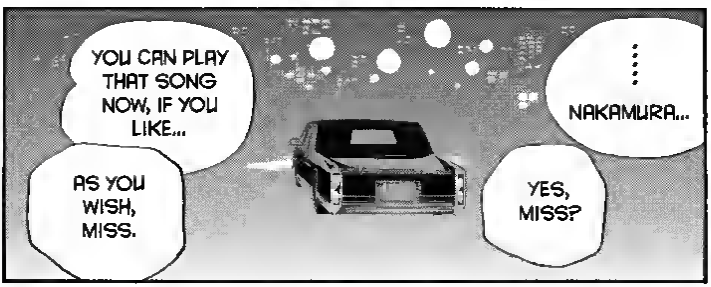

WHAT WAS IT THAT YOU WANTED TO HAVE DELIVERED...?
WAS IT REALLY SO IMPORTANT TO DELIVER THOSE THAT YOU'D RISK INJURIES?

HEY, BEARD...
HUH?

So they're... getting along pretty well.
HM...
YES, IT IS.
AND IF I HAD NOT MADE IT ON TIME, THEN I COULD NEVER HAVE FACED TSUKAMOTO'S SISTER-SAN AGAIN.
PLEASE EXCUSE MY MISTRESS. SHE CAN BE MOODY AT TIMES.
AH... NO PROBLEM. I'LL BE GOING NOW.
THANKS FOR EVERYTHING.
SORRY TO HAVE BOTHERED YOU TONIGHT, PRINCESS...
YAGAMI STATION...
PERHAPS...
...I MAY BE OUT OF BOUNDS WITH THIS QUESTION, BUT...
SHK

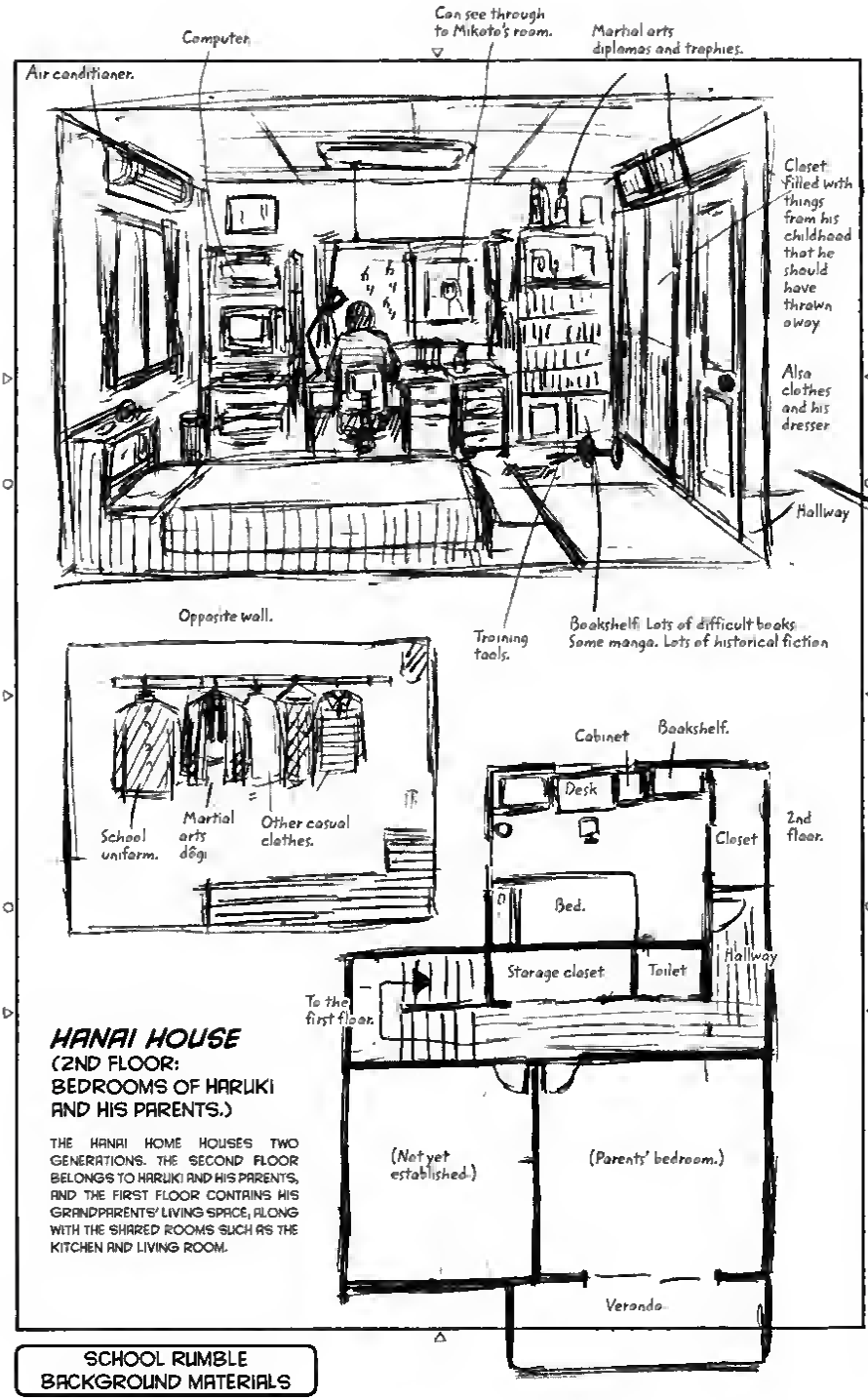






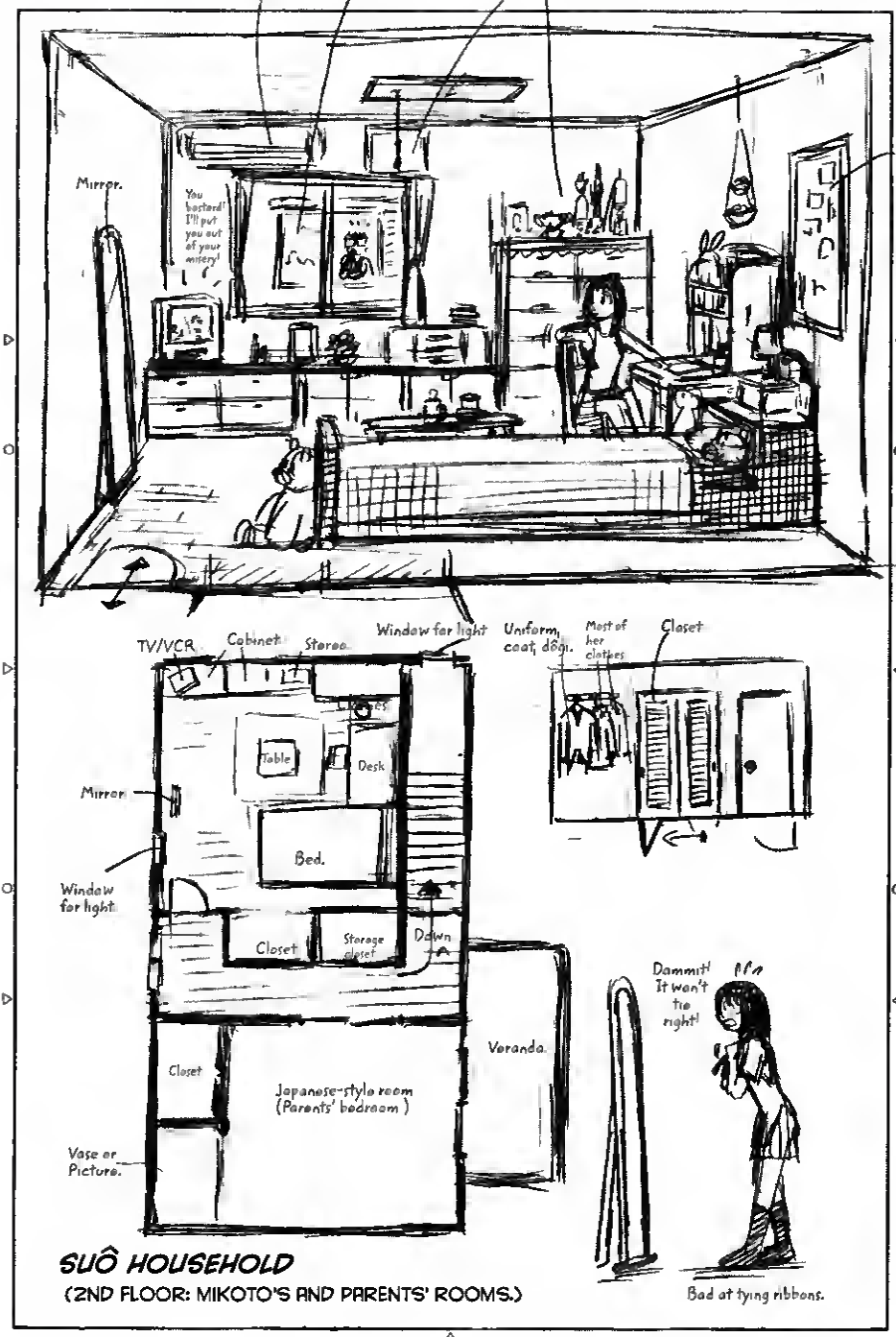
96 . . . . . Fin

Nakamura Isn't in Love. In Case You Wondered.



HANAI HOUSE
(2ND FLOOR: BEDROOMS OF HARUKI AND HIS PARENTS.)

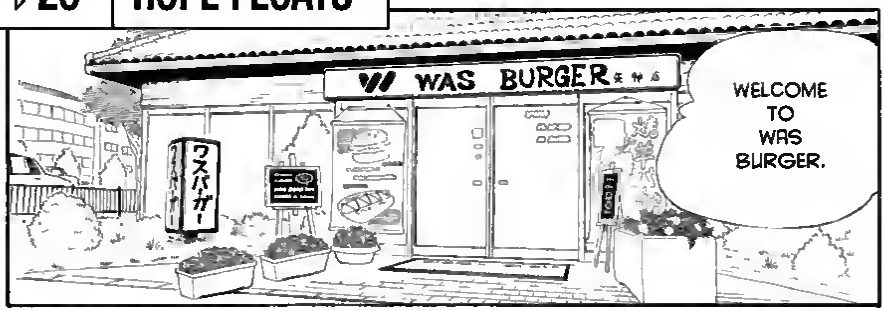
THE HANAI HOME HOUSES TWO GENERATIONS. THE SECOND FLOOR BELONGS TO HARUKI AND HIS PARENTS, AND THE FIRST FLOOR CONTAINS HIS GRANDPARENTS' LIVING SPACE, ALONG WITH THE SHARED ROOMS SUCH AS THE KITCHEN AND LIVING ROOM.

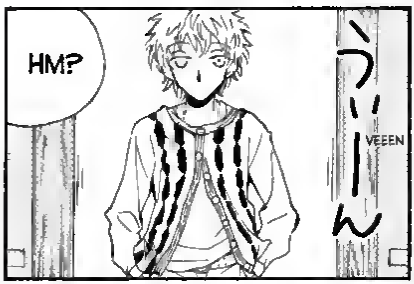


SUÔ HOUSEHOLD

(2ND FLOOR: MIKOTO'S AND PARENTS' ROOMS.)

♭20 HOPE FLOATS

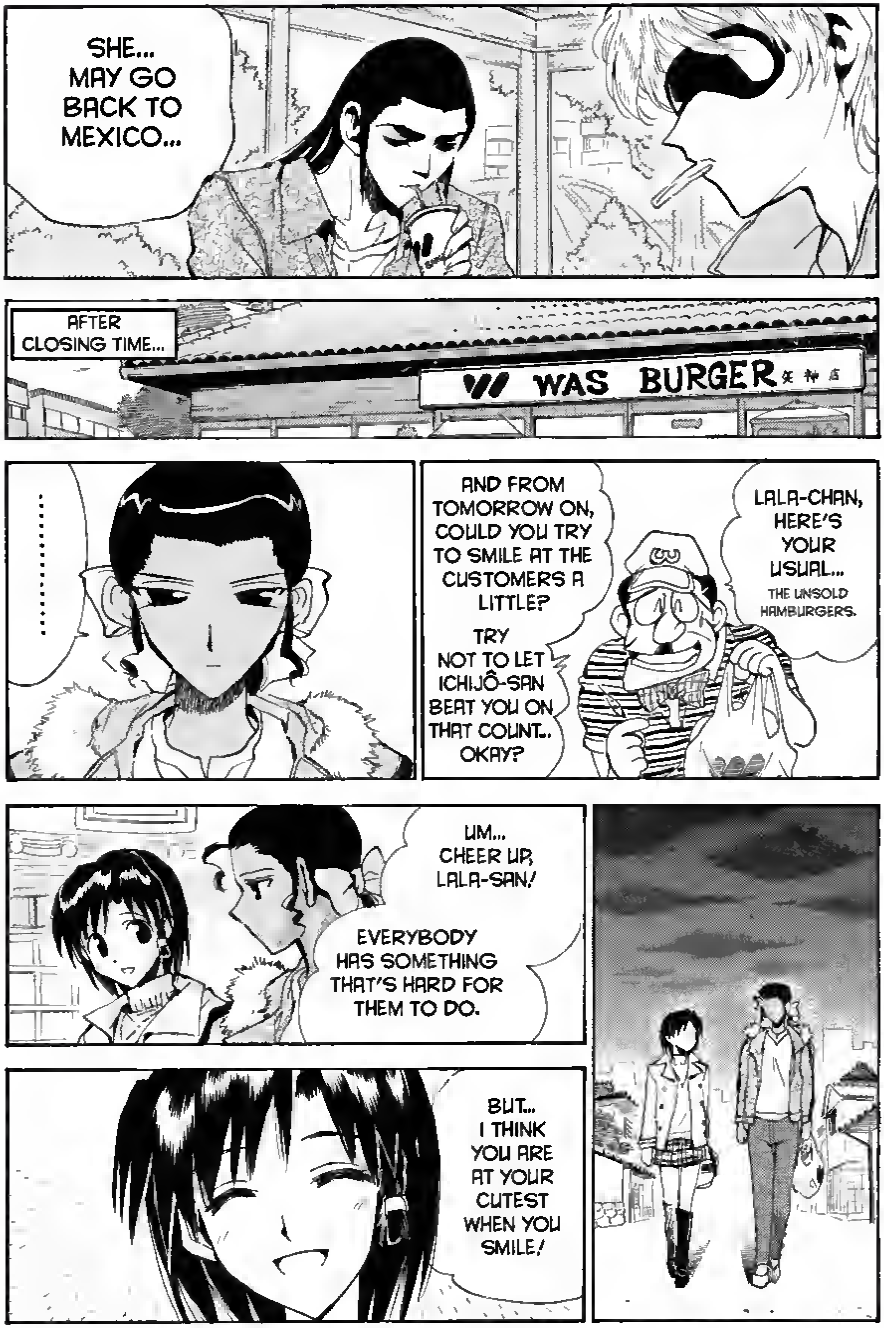




THERE'S NOBODY AT THE OTHER OPEN REGISTER...
CHATTER
CHATTER
WHY ARE THEY LINING UP BEHIND THAT ONE REGISTER?
SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING!
ZIMMM

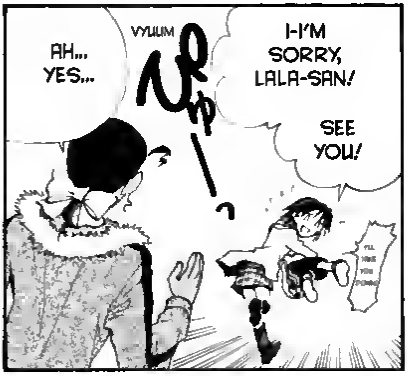
WHAT WILL YOU HAVE?
GURU
CHATTER CHATTER
WHAT'S SHE SO MAD AT?
S-SHE'S SCARY
COME ON...
I ASKED FOR A "SMILE"!
TREMBLE TREMBLE
POP
"A SMILE."
A SMILE IS FREE, RIGHT?
WHOAAAH
!!

SH-SHE DRAGGED HIM BEHIND THE COUNTER?!!
EXCUSE ME. IF YOU'LL JUST WAIT A FEW MINUTES...
E—
MANAGER
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, LALA-CHAN?!
OH, NO!!
CRUNCH
GACHAN
EYAAAAH!!
I BELIEVE SHE HAS BEEN CAUGHT UP IN HER EMOTIONS EVER SINCE SHE WAS BEATEN BY ICHIJÔ AT THE ATHLETICS FAIR.
EAT UP, MY PARTNER. YOUR FRIES ARE GETTING COLD.
EYRAH/
KALANK
LALA... SHE PRETTY VIOLENT THESE DAYS...
STOP THAT "PART-NER" TALK.
SLURP
I-ICHIJÔ... DO SOMETHING ABOUT THIS WOMAN...
L-LALA-SAN! YOU MUSTN'T! HE'S A CUSTOMER!!
BREAK IT UP! BREAK IT UP!
GRN GRN GRN

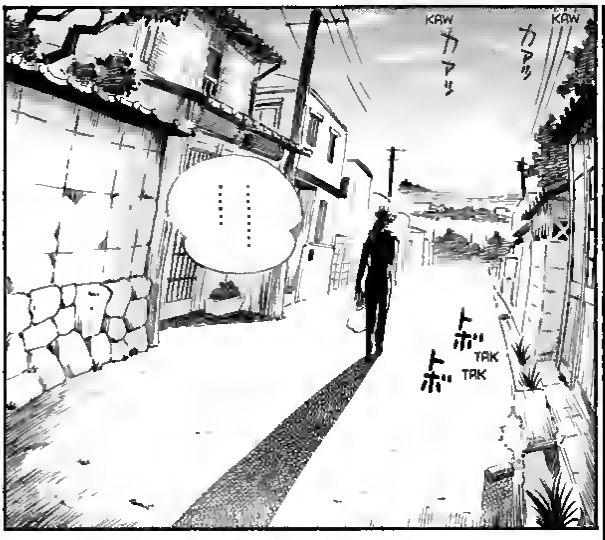

SHE... MAY GO BACK TO MEXICO...
AFTER CLOSING TIME...
WAS BURGER
.....
AND FROM TOMORROW ON, COULD YOU TRY TO SMILE AT THE CUSTOMERS A LITTLE?
TRY NOT TO LET ICHIJÔ-SAN BEAT YOU ON THAT COUNT.. OKAY?
LALA-CHAN, HERE'S YOUR USUAL...
THE UNSOLD HAMBURGERS.
UM... CHEER UP, LALA-SAN!
EVERYBODY HAS SOMETHING THAT'S HARD FOR THEM TO DO.
BUT... I THINK YOU ARE AT YOUR CUTEST WHEN YOU SMILE!

REALLY? THANK YOU!
I CAME TO WALK YOU BACK HOME!
STARE
IF WE DON'T GET BACK QUICK, DOJIBIRON WILL START WITHOUT US!

KÔSUKE! WHAT'S UP?
HEY, BIG SIS!!
POM


AH... YES...
VYUUM
I-I'M SORRY, LALA-SAN!
SEE YOU!

DOESN'T QUITE UNDER-STAND, BUT FEELS INSULTED.
HEY, YOU'RE HUGE! SO ARE YOU GOING TO BE DOJIBIRON'S EVIL QUEEN?!
S-STOP THAT, KÔSUKE!


KAW
カアッ
KAW
カアッ
トボ"
TAK
トボ"
TAK

FAMILY...?
ADIOS.

Lala: Only Family Is Her Father in Mexico.

ARE YOU...ALL ALONE AS WELL...?
HA HA! THAT TICKLES, YOU KNOW.
ばう
WOOF
WAS BURGER
SHK
H!!
.....

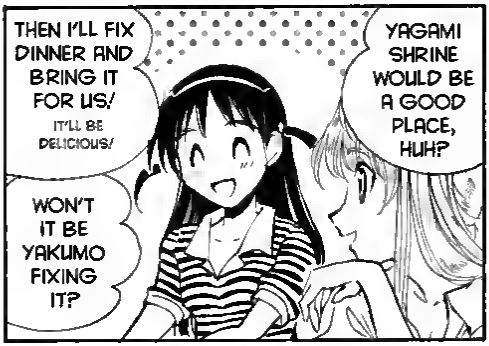
SMILE!
I WANTED TO SEE A SMILE LIKE I SAW YESTERDAY.
YOU...!
EXPLAIN YOUR PRESENCE HERE!
WOOF
WHAK WHAK
EYAAAH!!
ICHIJŌ, SAVE ME!
I-IMADORI-SAN! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?!
PERHAPS WE AREN'T NEEDED HERE.
SHLUP
SHE SEEM CHEERFUL TODAY.
HER PUNCHES ARE VERY PRETTIER THAN YESTERDAY
LALA-CHAN, YOU HAVE TO STOP THAT!!

♮01 BALLAD IN BLUE

WHAT ARE YOU COMPLAINING ABOUT, TENMA? YOU WERE LATE, TOO!
UCC Café Mercado
MIIIN
MIIIN
AH! MIKO-CHAN! YOU'RE LATE!
BAD GIRL!
SORRY! SORRY, I GOT DELAYED.

AT THIS POINT IT'S PRETTY MUCH A WASTE OF TIME, BUT...
...I'VE ALREADY PAID THE ENTRANCE FEES...
SIGH
?

I'M GOING TO CRAM SCHOOL.
HOW UNUSUAL TO SEE YOU CARRYING A BOOK BAG.
OWW!
BUNDAI CRAM SCHOOL, WAS IT?

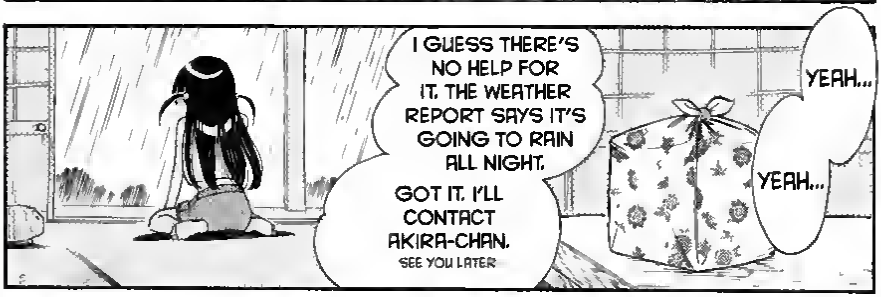

THEN I'LL FIX DINNER AND BRING IT FOR US!
IT'LL BE DELICIOUS!
YAGAMI SHRINE WOULD BE A GOOD PLACE, HUH?
WON'T IT BE YAKUMO FIXING IT?

YES, I'VE PRETTY WELL DECIDED.
BY THE WAY, HAVE YOU MADE UP YOUR MIND ABOUT WHAT WE TALKED ABOUT?
TONIGHT IS THE NIGHT THE METEOR SHOWER IS FORECAST.
THE PICTURE YOU TOOK LAST YEAR WAS GORGEOUS, AKIRA.

SO... YOU'RE GOING TO CRAM SCHOOL, MIKOTO...
RIGHT!

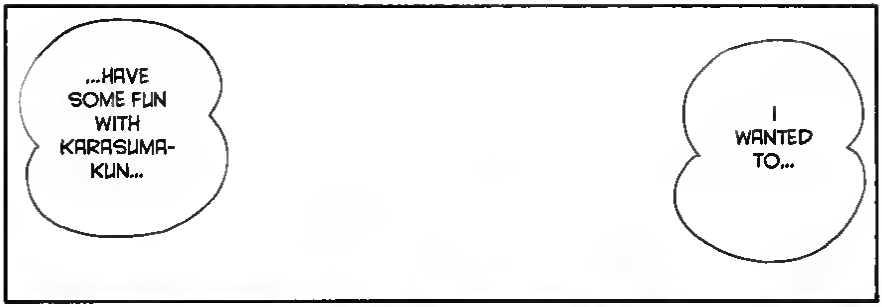
SO JAPAN HAS THAT TRADITION TOO, HUH?
OH, YOUR LIST OF WISHES ON THE SHOOTING STARS.
THERE WILL BE ALL SORTS OF SHOOTING STARS DURING THE METEOR SHOWER, SO I'LL HAVE LOTS OF WISHES! ♪
EH?
IT'S TIME TO PUT MIKO-CHAN PASSING HER EXAMS ON THE LIST!
EH?
BY THE WAY, WHAT ARE YOU GUYS GOING TO WISH FOR?
BUT WITH THE SPEED OF FALLING STARS, IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO WISH THREE TIMES WHILE THEY FALL!

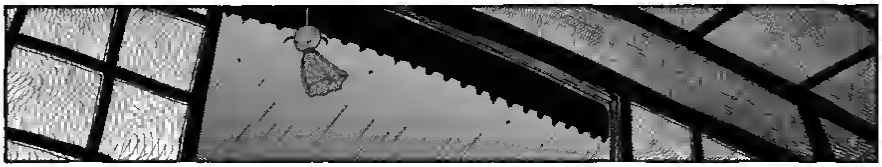
SHHHH
EVENING...

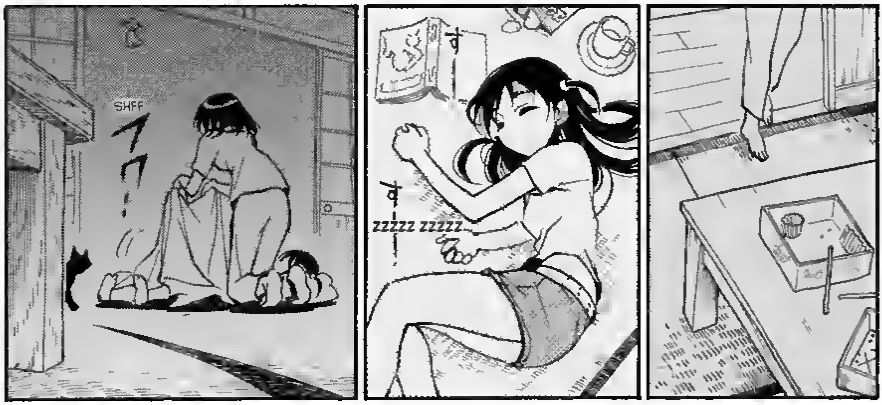

I GUESS THERE'S NO HELP FOR IT. THE WEATHER REPORT SAYS IT'S GOING TO RAIN ALL NIGHT.
GOT IT. I'LL CONTACT AKIRA-CHAN.
SEE YOU LATER
YEAH...
YEAH...

I THOUGHT THIS WOULD BE MY LAST MEMORY OF THE SUMMER.
SIGH
PEEP
PHONE... HOMEWORK...
AH.../ IT'S SUCH A WASTE!

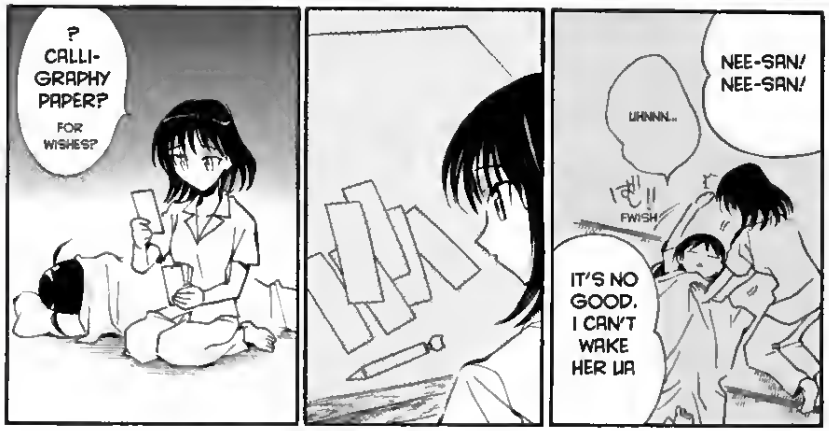
IT JUST SEEMS LIKE THERE'S SOMETHING MISSING.
I'VE GOT SCHOOL TOMORROW.
AND I HAVEN'T DONE MY HOMEWORK.
GROL

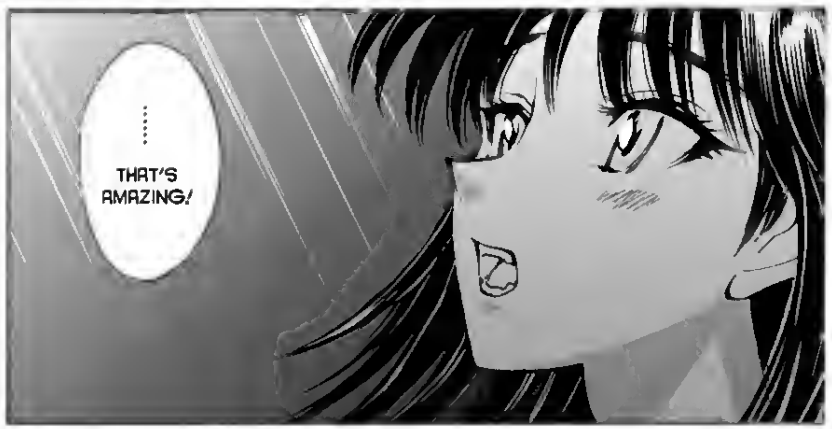






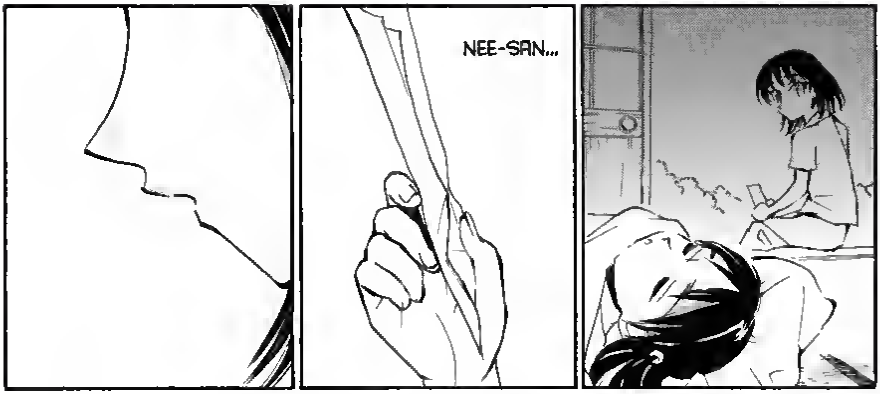
Hasn't Done Any of It.

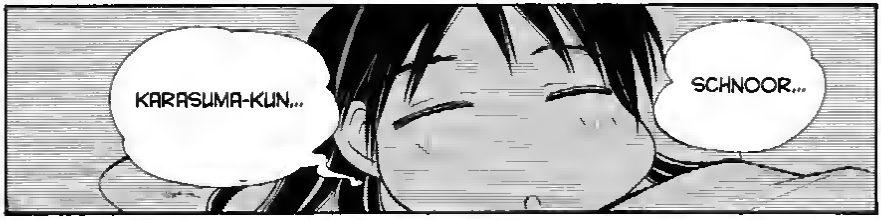

?
CALLI-
GRAPHY
PAPER?
FOR
WISHES?
NEE-SAN!
NEE-SAN!
UHNNN...
FWISH
IT'S NO
GOOD.
I CAN'T
WAKE
HER UP


.....
THAT'S
AMAZING!

HEH HEH... YAKUMO KUN...
PEEP PULU PEE!
ブルル
VMMM VMMM
I WISH TO BE SMARTER.

"PLEASE ABOLISH ENGLISH AS A SUBJECT, AND WHILE YOU'RE AT IT, ABOLISH SCHOOL ALTOGETHER..."
"AND PLEASE LET MIKO-CHAN PASS HER TESTS AT BUNDAI CRAM SCHOOL AND ANOTHER THING..."
ZZZZ ZZZZ
AH...

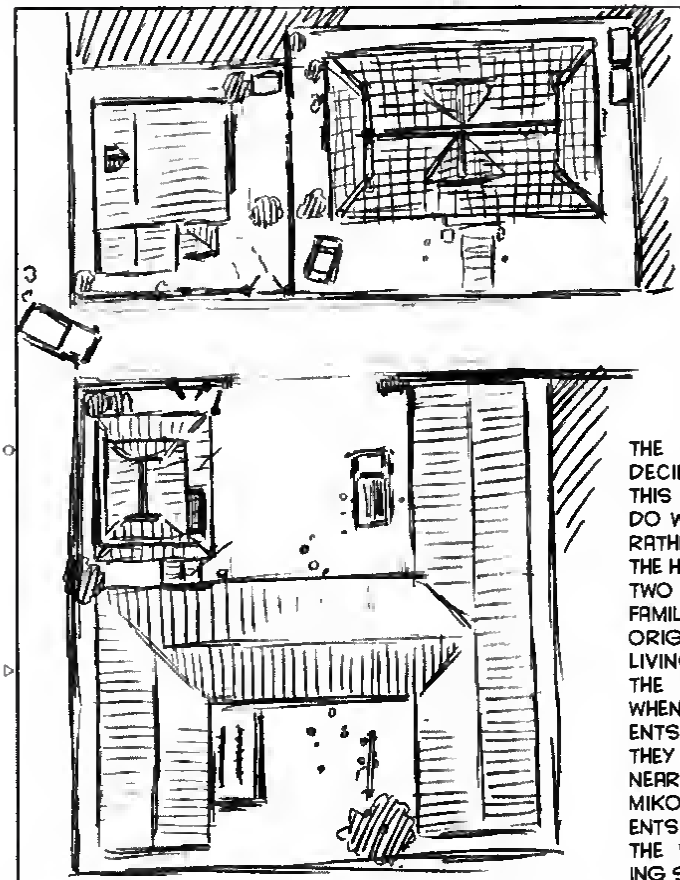




Homework...

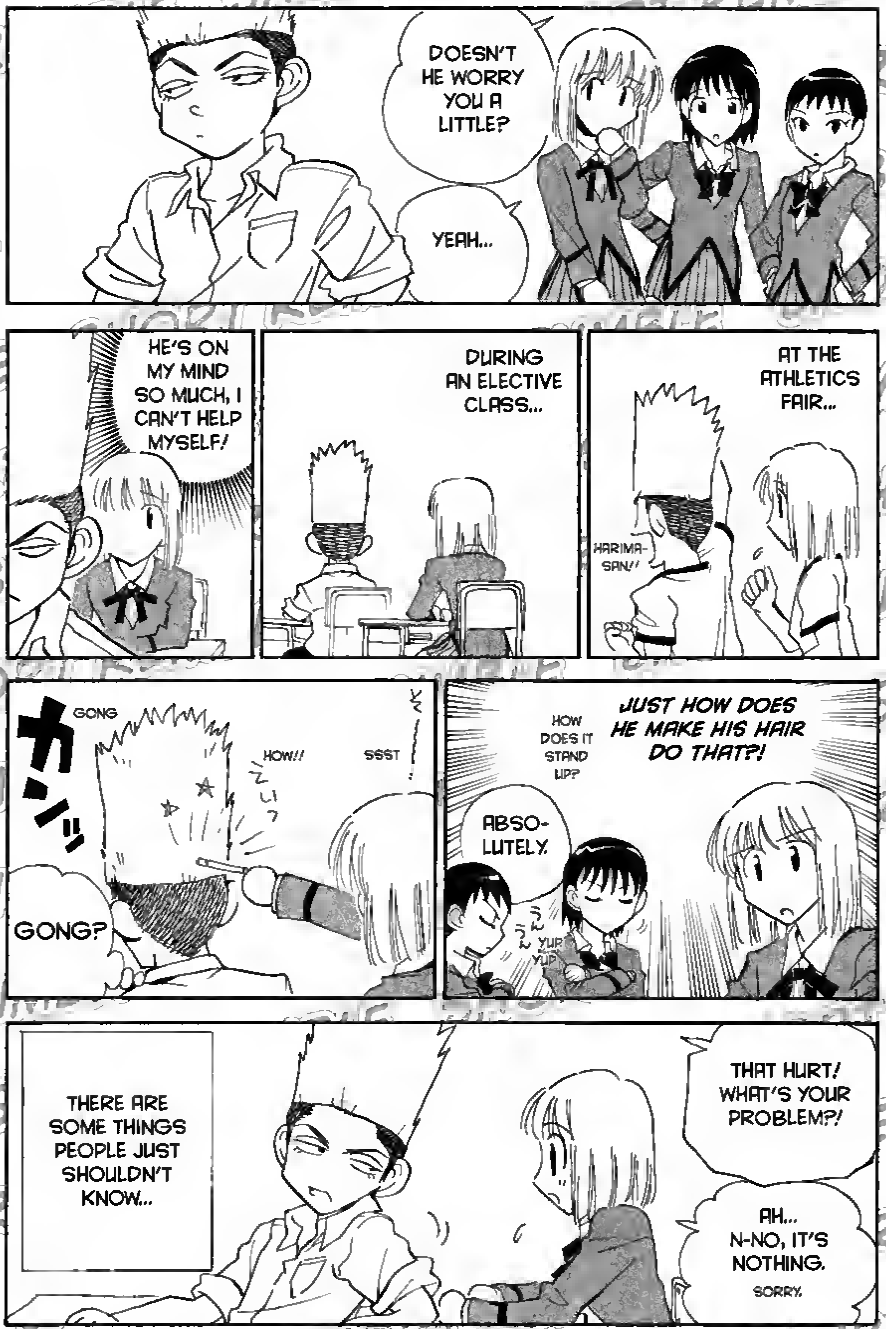
ϟ01.....Fin

MAP OF THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE SUÔ AND HANAI FAMILY HOMES.



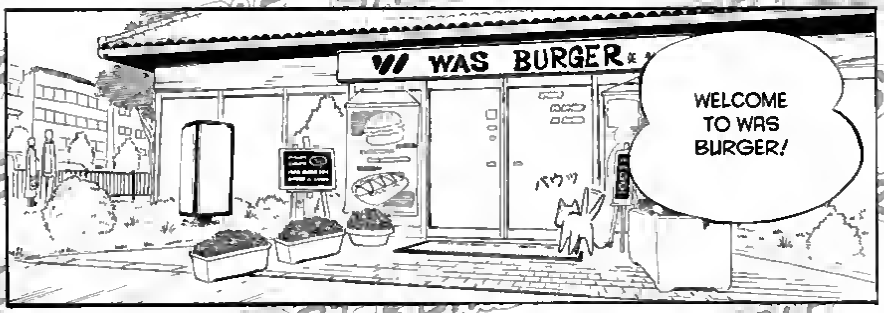
ABOVE IS THE HANAI HOUSE AND THE HANAI DOJO. BELOW IS THE SUÔ HOME, THE CONTRACTING FIRM, "SUÔ-GUMI," AND THEIR WORKSHOP. AS FAR AS THE SIZE OF THE BUILDING IS CONCERNED, THE HANAI HOME IS DECIDEDLY BIGGER. THIS HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH FINANCES, BUT RATHER THE FACT THAT THE HANAI HOME HOUSES TWO GENERATIONS OF FAMILY. THE SUÔ FAMILY ORIGINALLY LIVED IN A LIVING SPACE WITHIN THE WORKSHOP, BUT WHEN MIKOTO'S PARENTS WERE MARRIED, THEY BUILT A NEW HOME NEAR THE WORKSHOP. MIKOTO'S GRANDPARENTS STILL LIVE WITHIN THE WORKSHOP'S LIVING SPACE.

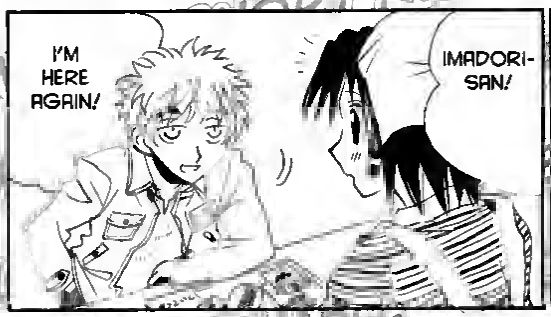
SHOULDN'T KNOW!



NO, HE ISN'T A ROBOT.

WHEN WILL THE SMILE...

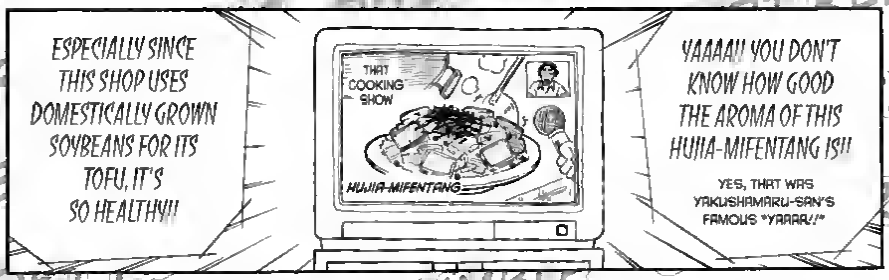


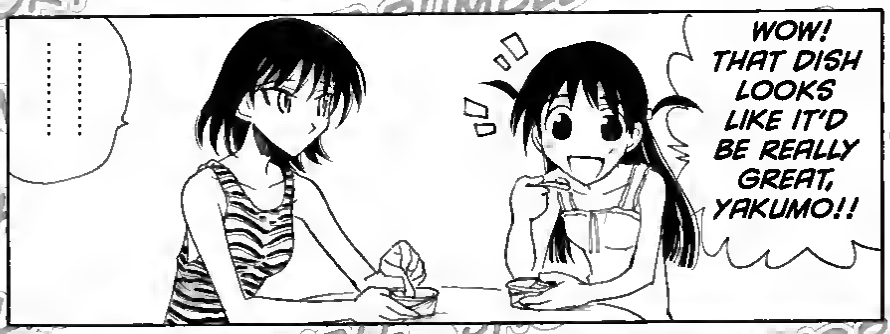


CONTINUED ON THE NEXT PAGE...

EH...?!
U-UM.
UH...TH-THAT MENU IS ONLY FOR CHILDREN...
UH..UM...
YOU'RE MEAN!
B-BUT...
WHO CARES? DO IT AS AN ACT OF GOOD WILL BETWEEN CLASSMATES!
HM...
CHECK.
TONK
I-IMADORI-SAN?!
EYAAAHH!
SAVE ME, ICHIJÔ!!
NO MEANS NO!!
POW BAM
ぼか
ぼか

IT'S HARD BEING THE YOUNGER SISTER.

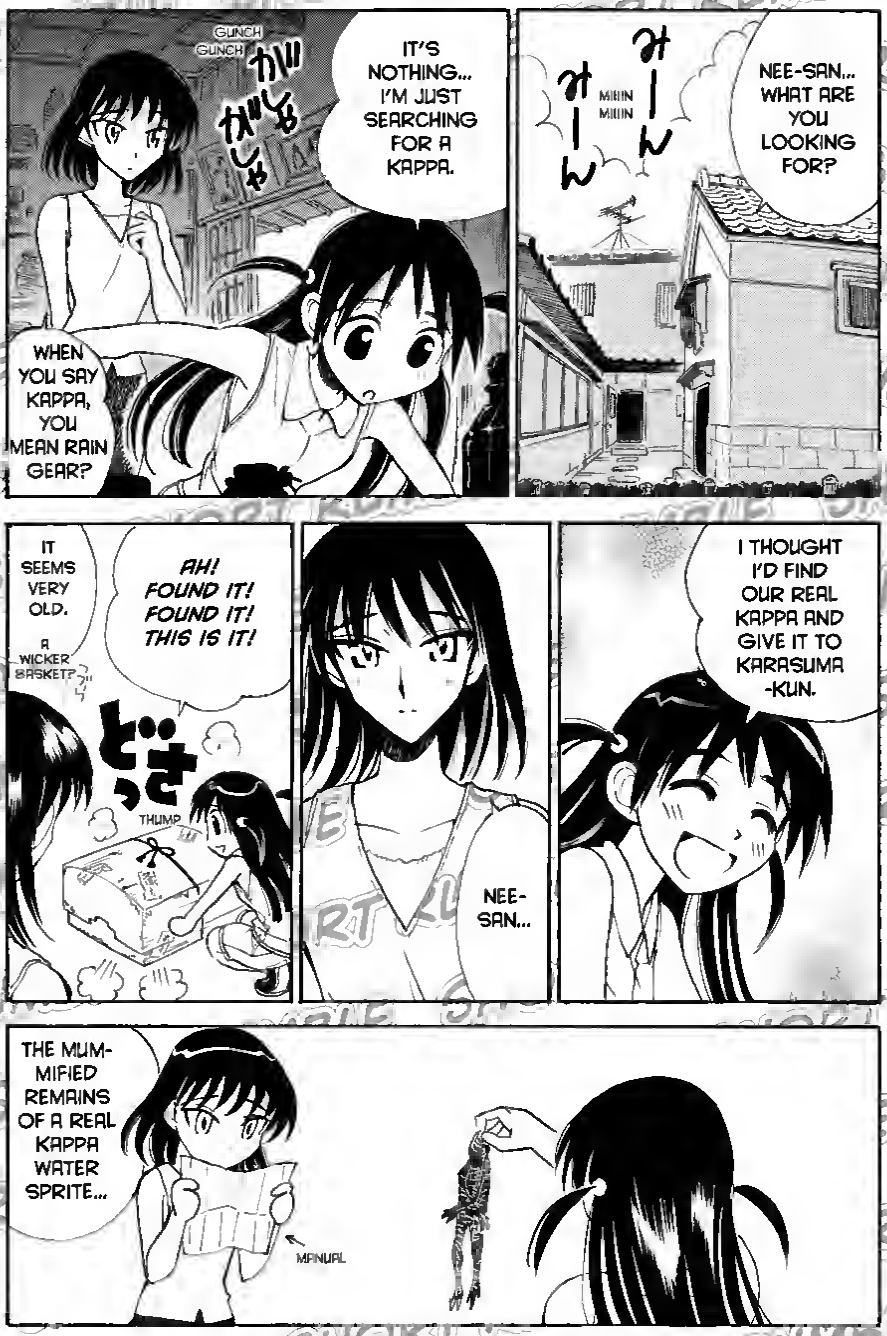

ESPECIALLY SINCE THIS SHOP USES DOMESTICALLY GROWN SOYBEANS FOR ITS TOFU, IT'S SO HEALTHY!!!
THAT COOKING SHOW
HUJIA-MIFENTANG
YAAAA!! YOU DON'T KNOW HOW GOOD THE AROMA OF THIS HUJIA-MIFENTANG IS!!!
YES, THAT WAS YAKUSHAMARU-SAN'S FAMOUS "YAAAA!"



YAKUMO COULDN'T TELL HER THAT THEY WATCHED LAST NIGHT'S TELEVISION PROGRAM TOGETHER...
.....
THAT'S AMAZING! HOW DID YOU KNOW THAT THIS IS EXACTLY WHAT I WANTED TO EAT?!

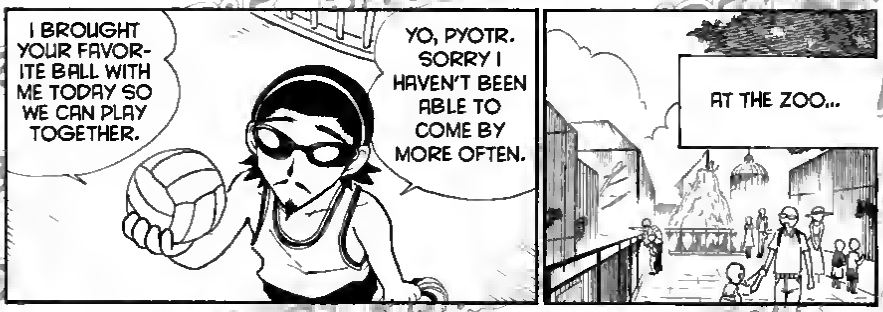
TENMA HAS, OF COURSE, FORGOTTEN THE NAME OF THE DISH.

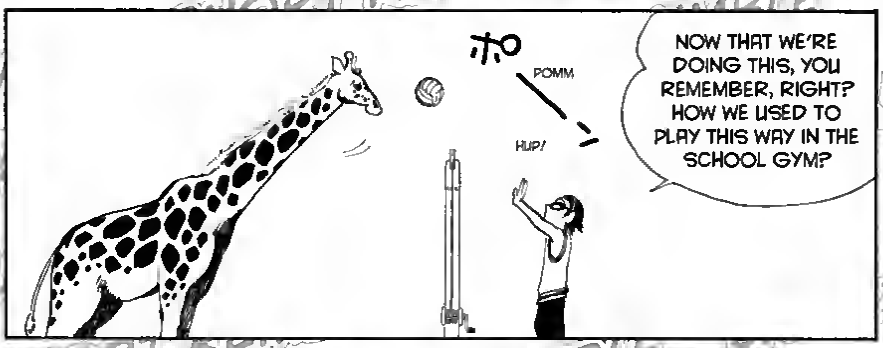
IT'S HARD BEING THE OLDER SISTER, TOO.

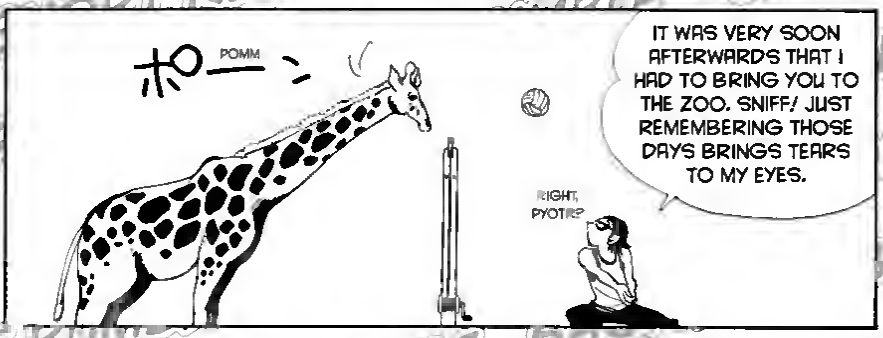

GUNCH GUNCH
かいっぱしゃ
IT'S NOTHING... I'M JUST SEARCHING FOR A KAPPA.
WHEN YOU SAY KAPPA, YOU MEAN RAIN GEAR?
みーん
MIIIN MIIIN
NEE-SAN... WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FOR?
IT SEEMS VERY OLD.
A WICKER BASKET?
AH! FOUND IT! FOUND IT! THIS IS IT!
どさっ
THUMP
NEE-SAN...
I THOUGHT I'D FIND OUR REAL KAPPA AND GIVE IT TO KARASUMA -KUN.
THE MUM-MIFIED REMAINS OF A REAL KAPPA WATER SPRITE...
MANUAL

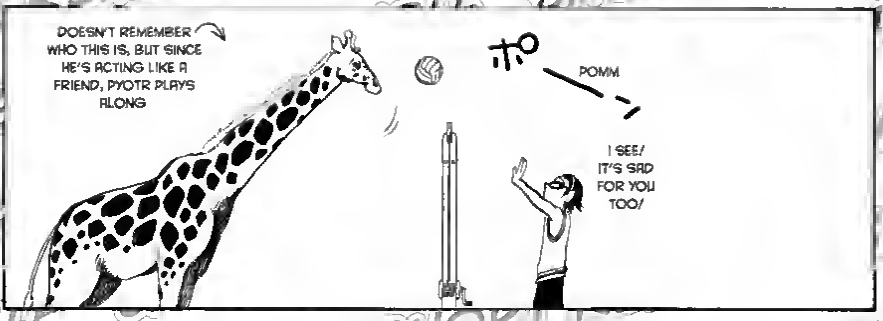
AND THUS THE KAPPA CONFUSION GOES ON...

PYOTR: ONCE AGAIN.


I BROUGHT YOUR FAVORITE BALL WITH ME TODAY SO WE CAN PLAY TOGETHER.
YO, PYOTR. SORRY I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO COME BY MORE OFTEN.
AT THE ZOO...




POMM
IT WAS VERY SOON AFTERWARDS THAT I HAD TO BRING YOU TO THE ZOO. SNIFF/ JUST REMEMBERING THOSE DAYS BRINGS TEARS TO MY EYES.
RIGHT, PYOTR?

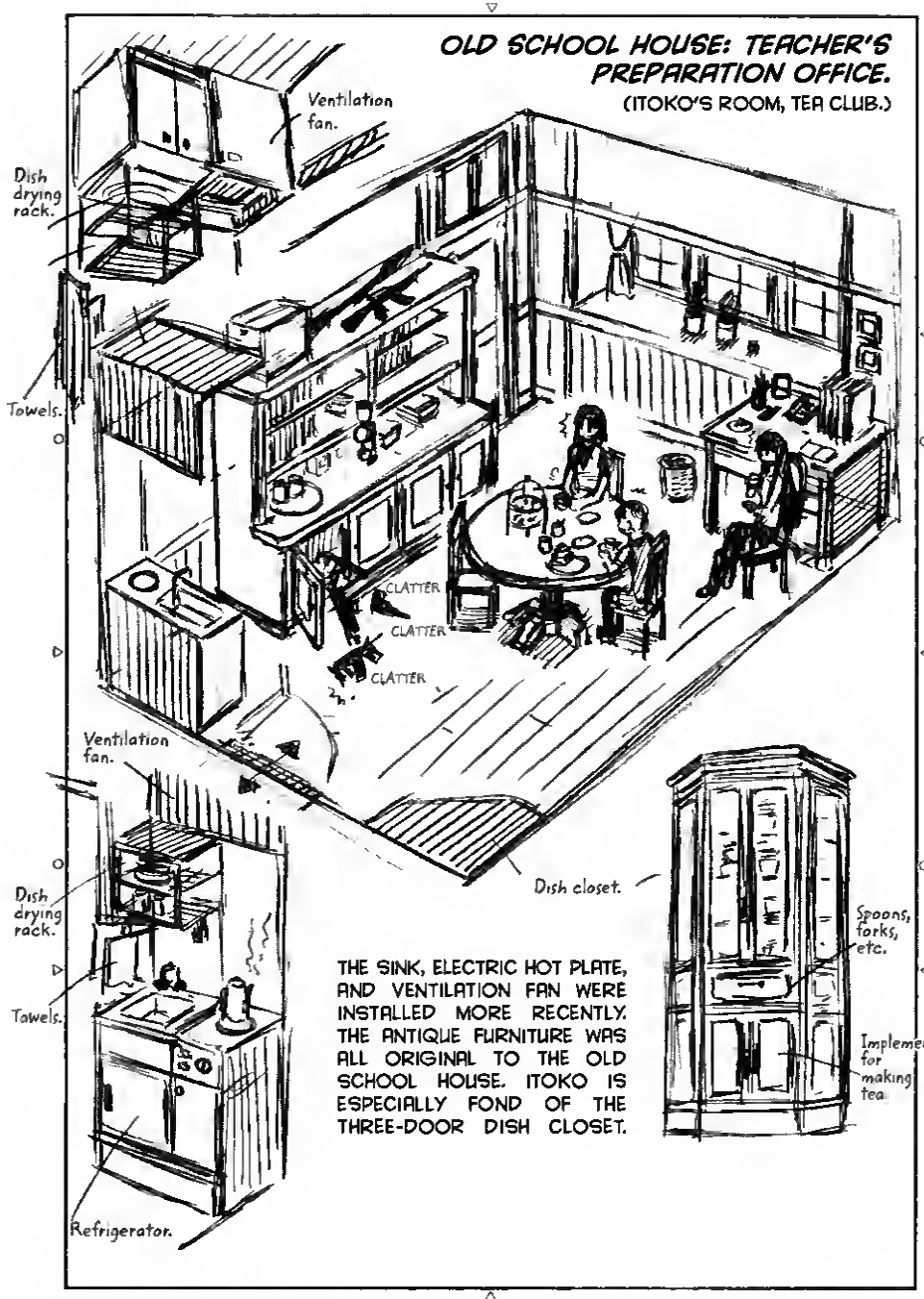


THEY'RE SO MUCH ALIKE, OF COURSE THEY GET ALONG.

Pyotr: Harima's Former Pet Who Forgets Things Easily.

TENMA'S SECRET.

SHORT RUMBLE...FIN.


OLD SCHOOL HOUSE: TEACHER'S PREPARATION OFFICE.
(ITOKO'S ROOM, TEA CLUB.)
Ventilation fan.
Dish drying rack.
Towels.
CLATTER
CLATTER
CLATTER
Ventilation fan.
Dish drying rack.
Towels.
Refrigerator.
Dish closet.
Spoons, forks, etc.
Implements for making tea
THE SINK, ELECTRIC HOT PLATE, AND VENTILATION FAN WERE INSTALLED MORE RECENTLY. THE ANTIQUE FURNITURE WAS ALL ORIGINAL TO THE OLD SCHOOL HOUSE. ITOKO IS ESPECIALLY FOND OF THE THREE-DOOR DISH CLOSET.

About the Creator

Jin Kobayashi was born in Tokyo. *School Rumble* is his first manga series. He has answered these questions from his fans:

What is your hobby?
Basketball

Which manga inspired you to become a creator?
Dragon Ball

Which character in your manga do you like best?
Kenji Harima

What type of manga do you want to create in the future?
Action

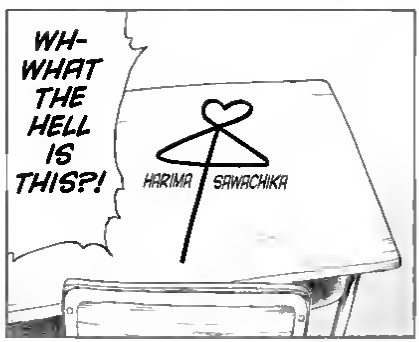
Name one book, piece of music, or movie you like.
The *Indiana Jones* series

Translation Notes

Japanese is a tricky language for most Westerners, and translation is often more art than science. For your edification and reading pleasure, here are notes on some of the places where we could have gone in a different direction in our translation of the work, or where a Japanese cultural reference is used.

Names Under an Umbrella, page 4

As was noted in the notes for *School Rumble* Volume 1, one of the few acceptable intimacies between a man and a woman in public is walking under the same umbrella. Thus was spawned the custom of drawing a stylized umbrella with two names under it, insinuating that the two are in love. This has exactly the same meaning in Japan as a heart with two names written inside does in Western countries.



Tenma's Song, page 33

The first School Rumble CD, *School Rumble Tsukamoto Tenma*, came out in July 2004 featuring the voice actress Ami Koshimizu in the role of Tenma—a precursor to her voice work in the first School Rumble

anime series, which debuted in October of that same year. One of the songs featured on the CD, *Suteki na Yokan (A Wonderful Premonition)*, was sung by Koshimizu, and the lyrics are what Tenma is singing in the first panel of page 33.

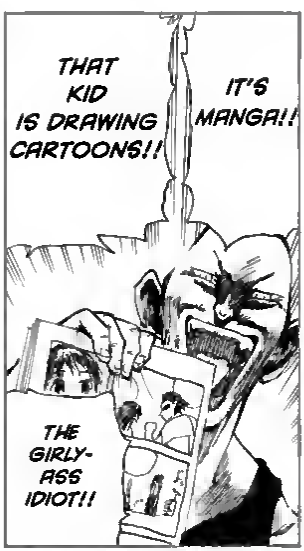
Kikoku-maru, page 37

The *kanji* for *Kikoku* making up the ship name are *oni*, the horned Japanese ogre/demons, and *naku*, which means to wail or moan. Thus you get Ôtani's version of why the boat is named what it is. *Maru* means circular, and nearly all Japanese ship names end with *maru*.

THAT'S BECAUSE THIS PLACE IS A HELL THAT EVEN ONI WAIL AND RUN AWAY FROM!!
I'M GONNA GIVE IT TO YOU STRAIGHT! THIS BOAT IS CALLED THE KIKOKU-MARU!!
HYA HAA

Cartoons, page 40

The word Ôtani used was *ponchi-e*, which translates to a word much like the American word cartoon—a somewhat derogatory name for manga and anime.



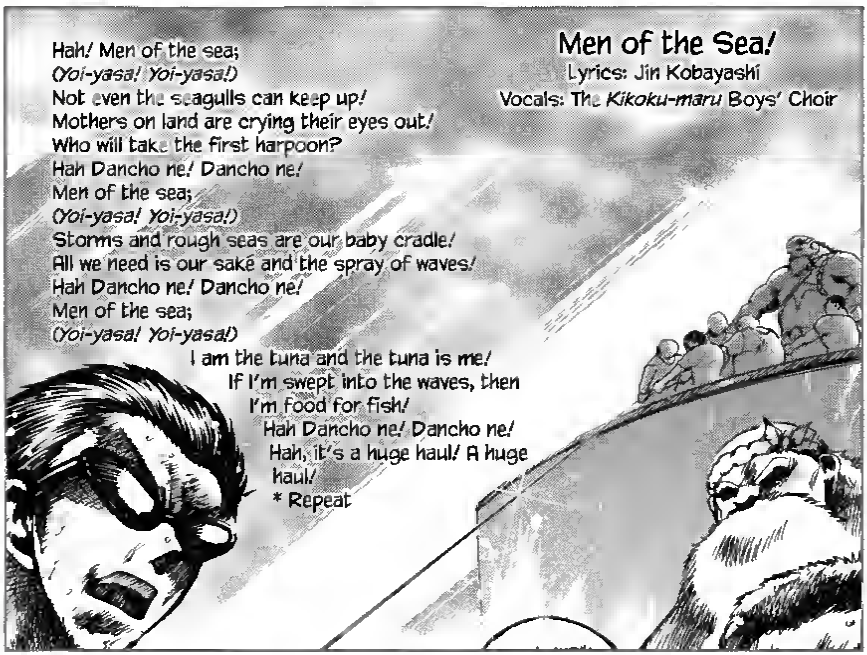
BY CARTOONS. HE'S REFERRING TO MANGA.

Akihabara, page 41

Serious fans of anime and manga know that the shopping district of Akihabara is the heart of anime and manga merchandise and services in Tokyo. The section used to be (and still is) the center of electronics. Since the 1990s, however, the emphasis has shifted to bookstores, shops selling records, video games and models, manga cafés, maid cafés, and other businesses that cater to the anime, manga, and game otaku.

Yoi-yasa! Dancho ne!, page 48

As one can imagine with Japan's consumption of fish, the country has a rich tradition of fishing and seafaring. The traditional songs usually support the rhythm of pulling in the net, so the meaningless word, *yoi-yasa*, would be timed to when one tries to haul in the netting. The *dancho ne* is also timed with pulling in the ropes, but in this case it is a term that means something similar to the outdated English phrase, "woe is me."


Men of the Sea!
Lyrics: Jin Kobayashi
Vocals: The *Kikoku-maru* Boys' Choir
Hah! Men of the sea;
(Yoi-yasa! Yoi-yasa!)
Not even the seagulls can keep up!
Mothers on land are crying their eyes out!
Who will take the first harpoon?
Hah Dancho ne! Dancho ne!
Men of the sea;
(Yoi-yasa! Yoi-yasa!)
Storms and rough seas are our baby cradle!
All we need is our saké and the spray of waves!
Hah Dancho ne! Dancho ne!
Men of the sea;
(Yoi-yasa! Yoi-yasa!)
I am the tuna and the tuna is me!
If I'm swept into the waves, then
I'm food for fish!
Hah Dancho ne! Dancho ne!
Hah, it's a huge haul! A huge haul!
* Repeat

Jin Gama, page 73

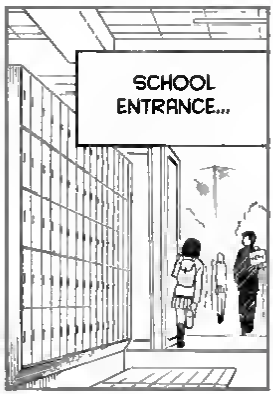
This is a jumbled version of the name of the Kodansha magazine in which School Rumble appears. The magazine is *Weekly Shônen Magazine* (pronounced *magajin* in Japanese) and mixing up the syllables a bit results in Jin Gama.

New Talent Awards, page 73

Because of the demanding schedules and high burnout rate of manga artists, there is a large turnaround of talent in the Japanese manga business. One of the ways of discovering new talent is to put on annual contests where anyone can submit his or her manga to be judged. Winners usually receive a cash prize and publication of their manga. Nearly all major (and most minor) publishers hold such contests.

School Entrance Hall, page 74

Many Westerners are familiar with the Japanese practice of taking off the shoes and donning slippers before entering a home. It is also true of most schools, and the entrance halls of those Japanese schools are filled with small boxes where the students exchange their outdoor shoes for the slippers worn during school hours.



Sensei and the Beret, page 77

The title sensei is not reserved for teachers. Doctors, authors, politicians, and those in other respected positions (including manga artists) are also given the title and treated with great respect. In the 1950s and 1960s, it became en vogue for any respected Japanese artist to wear a beret, imitating the stereotypical style of French painters. Since the "God of Manga," Osamu Tezuka, also followed this style, many later manga artists picked it up as well. So when Harima Kenji wanted to be thought of as a manga artist "*sensei*," he donned the beret himself, and later, when Yakumo proved that she was more worthy, he gave the beret to her.

Karikari-kun, page 105

Karikari-kun is the School Rumble equivalent of the Garigari-kun brand of frozen snacks. They are shaped much like popsicles or fudgsicles and come mainly in fruit flavors (but milk flavor, soda flavor, and cola flavor are also available). The packaging of Garigari-kun and Gariko-chan snacks feature cartoonlike characters with extra-wide mouths.

Beta-flash, page 106

In manga art talk, beta-flash are circular speed lines that end in a white space at the center of the panel with the black lines getting thicker as they get away from the center going toward the panel edges. At the panel edges, they become completely black. Beta-flash don't have to be circular; there are other possible shapes such as star shapes, octagons, etc.

Baths, page 108

Generally the Japanese bath is filled only once per night. The entire family will soak in the same water, and the order in which people enter the bath is usually guests first, then in order from eldest to youngest. Of course one washes the day's sweat and grime off entirely before entering the bath, but since the water can still get somewhat tepid or dirty after several people have used it, being first into the bath is a special treat for members of a Japanese family.

Edamame, page 110

The ubiquitous Japanese snack food *edamame* has slowly been gaining acceptance in America. It is a green soybean that is boiled in salted fresh water and served in its pod. The pod is squeezed until the bean pops out, then the bean is eaten.

Bundai Cram School, page 142

In Western countries, one's ticket to a better job is a degree at a college or university. Getting into the university may be rough, but graduating takes a special effort. In Japan the work is front-loaded so that getting into a good university is extremely difficult, but graduating after one has gotten in is much easier than in Western universities. Therefore, being admitted into a good university is the goal of any student with aspirations toward a good job. Because the entrance exam is so important, an industry of night schools has sprung up throughout the nation specifically aimed at helping students pass their college entrance exams. These schools are called *juku* or *yobikô* in Japanese. The fact that Mikoto has started at Bundai Cram School (probably the School Rumble world equivalent of the huge cram school chain Sundai Yobikô) means that she is already boning up for her entrance exams a year and a half away.

Meteor Shower, page 142

The Swift-Tuttle Comet makes an orbit around the sun every 130 years, each time leaving a wake of tiny specks of dust from its tail. The Earth passes through the Swift-Tuttle's orbital track every year in late summer, and when the residue from the comet collides with our atmosphere, even small dust particles light up with a fiery glow. These appear to watchers on the ground as shooting stars or "meteor

showers." Since the shooting stars are seen in the vicinity of the constellation of Perseus in the northern sky, this phenomenon is called the Perseid Meteor Showers. (For those of you struck with sudden Armageddon fears by the fact that the Earth is passing through the path of a comet every year, be comforted by the fact that Swift-Tuttle won't be coming back this century. Its last pass close to the Earth was in 1992.)